



BATMAN



**THE GOLDEN AGE
VOLUME 6**

BATMAN

THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 6

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ALVIN SCHWARTZ JOSEPH GREENE MORT WEISINGER
JOE SAMACHSON EDMOND HAMILTON JACK SCHIFF
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JERRY ROBINSON JACK BURNLEY GEORGE ROUSSOS
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SUPERMAN created by **JERRY SIEGEL** and **JOE SHUSTER**
By special arrangement with the JERRY SIEGEL family

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BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOLUME 6

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DETECTIVE COMICS #82
December 1943
Cover art by BOB KANE and JERRY ROBINSON

"Quarterback of Crime!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: GEORGE ROUSSOS
5

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #12
Winter 1943
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY

"Alfred Gets His Man!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: BOB KANE
18

DETECTIVE COMICS #83
January 1944
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY

"Accidentally on Purpose!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: GEORGE ROUSSOS
30

BATMAN #21
February-March 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Streamlined Busters!"
Writer: JACK SCOTT
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"Blitzkrieg Bandits!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Penciller: DICK SPRANG

"His Lordship's Double!"
Writer: ALVIN SCHWARTZ
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"The Three Eccentrics!"
Writer: JOSEPH GREENE
Artist: DICK SPRANG
43

DETECTIVE COMICS #84
February 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"Artists in Villain!"
Writer: MORT WEISINGER
Artist: DICK SPRANG
92

"The Man of a Thousand Umbrellas!"
Writer: JOSEPH GREENE
Artist: DICK SPRANG
186

DETECTIVE COMICS #85
March 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Joker's Double!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Artist: DICK SPRANG
106

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #13
Spring 1944
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY

"The Curse of Isis!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inkers: GEORGE ROUSSOS and RAY BURNLEY
120

BATMAN #22
April-May 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Duped Domestic!"
Writer: ALVIN SCHWARTZ
Penciller: BOB KANE
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON

"Dick Grayson, Telegraph Boy!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON

"The Adventures of Alfred: Conversational Clue!"
Writer: MORT WEISINGER
Artist: JERRY ROBINSON

"The Cavalier Rides Again!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: CHARLES PARS
133

DETECTIVE COMICS #86
April 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"Danger Strikers Thwart!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: DICK SPRANG
173

DETECTIVE COMICS #87
May 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Man of a Thousand Umbrellas!"
Writer: JOSEPH GREENE
Artist: DICK SPRANG
186

BATMAN #23
June-July 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Upside-Down Crimes!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: DICK SPRANG
Inker: GENE McDONALD

"Damsel in Distress!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"The Adventures of Alfred: Borrowed Butler!"
Writer: UNKNOWN
Artist: JERRY ROBINSON

"Pelt Plunderers!"
Writer: JOE SAMACHSON
Artist: DICK SPRANG
200

DETECTIVE COMICS #88
June 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Merchants of Misery!"
Writer: JOSEPH GREENE
Artist: DICK SPRANG
241

DETECTIVE COMICS #89
July 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"Laboratory Loot!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: DICK SPRANG
255

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #14
Summer 1944
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY

"Salvage Scavengers!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JERRY ROBINSON
Inker: GEORGE ROUSSOS
268

BATMAN #24
August-September 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"It Happened in Rome!"
Writer: JOE SAMACHSON
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"Convict Cargo!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: DICK SPRANG

"The Adventures of Alfred: Police Line-Up!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: JERRY ROBINSON

"The Mayors of Yonville!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: DICK SPRANG
281

DETECTIVE COMICS #90
August 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"Crime Between the Acts!"
Writer: JOSEPH GREENE
Artist: DICK SPRANG
322

DETECTIVE COMICS #91
September 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"The Case of the Practical Joker"
Writer: EDMOND HAMILTON
Artist: DICK SPRANG
336

BATMAN #25
October-November 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"Knights of Knavery"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON

"The Sheik of Gotham City"
Writer: ALVIN SCHWARTZ
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON

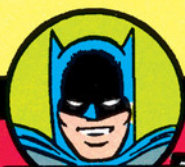
"The Adventures of Alfred: The Mesmerized Manhunter!"
Writer: DON CAMERON
Artist: JERRY ROBINSON

"The Kilowatt Cowboys!"
Writer: BILL FINGER
Penciller: JACK BURNLEY
Inker: JERRY ROBINSON
350

DETECTIVE COMICS #92
October 1944
Cover art by DICK SPRANG

"Crime's Manhunt"
Writer: JOSEPH GREENE
Artist: DICK SPRANG
391

Until the 1970s, it was not common practice in the comic book industry to credit all stories. In the preparation of this collection, we have used our best efforts to review any surviving records and consult any available databases and knowledgeable parties. We regret the innate limitations of this process and any missing or misassigned attributions that may occur.



The BATMAN

No. 82

EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION!
BOY COMMANDOS



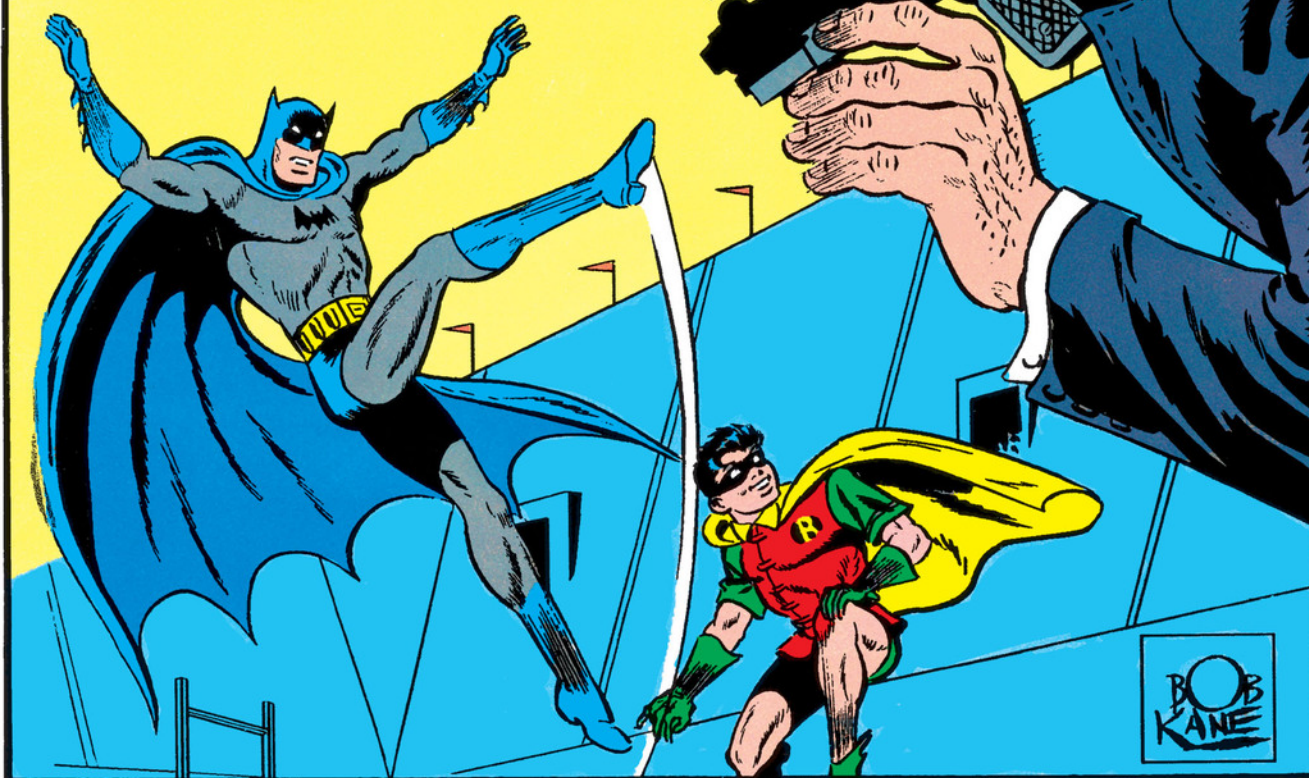
Detective

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

DEC.

COMICS

BATMAN AND ROBIN
PILE UP SCORES FOR JUSTICE
AGAINST THE
"QUARTERBACK OF CRIME"



BOB
KANE

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

-THE BOY WONDER-

12-12

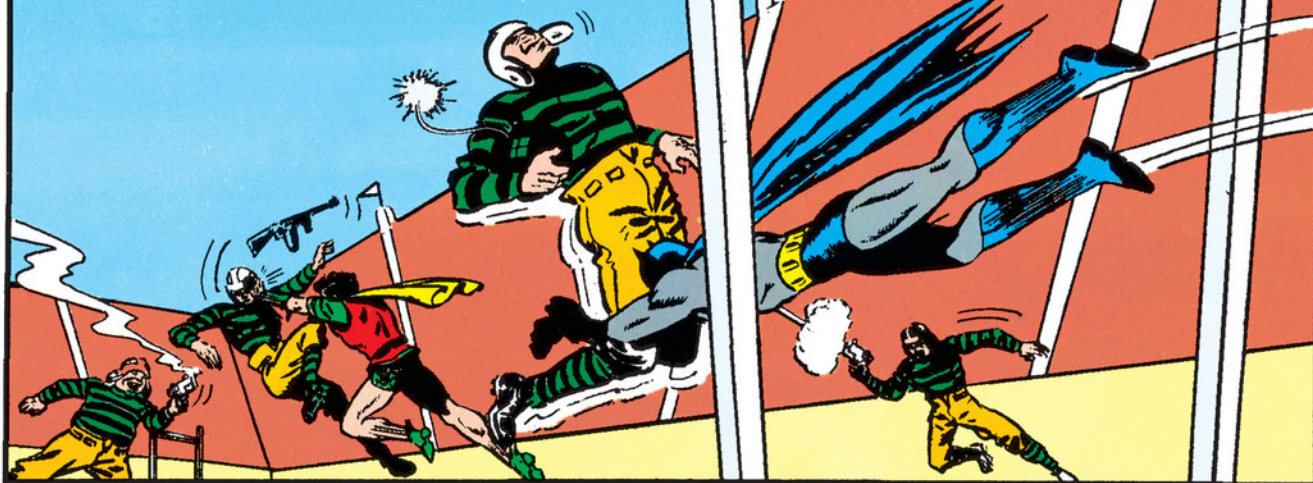
ADMIT ONE TO THE STRANGEST GRIDIRON BATTLE IN HISTORY! BETWEEN BLACKIE BLONDEEN'S UNDERWORLD THUNDERBOLTS AND THE UNDEFEATED ALL-STAR TEAM OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!

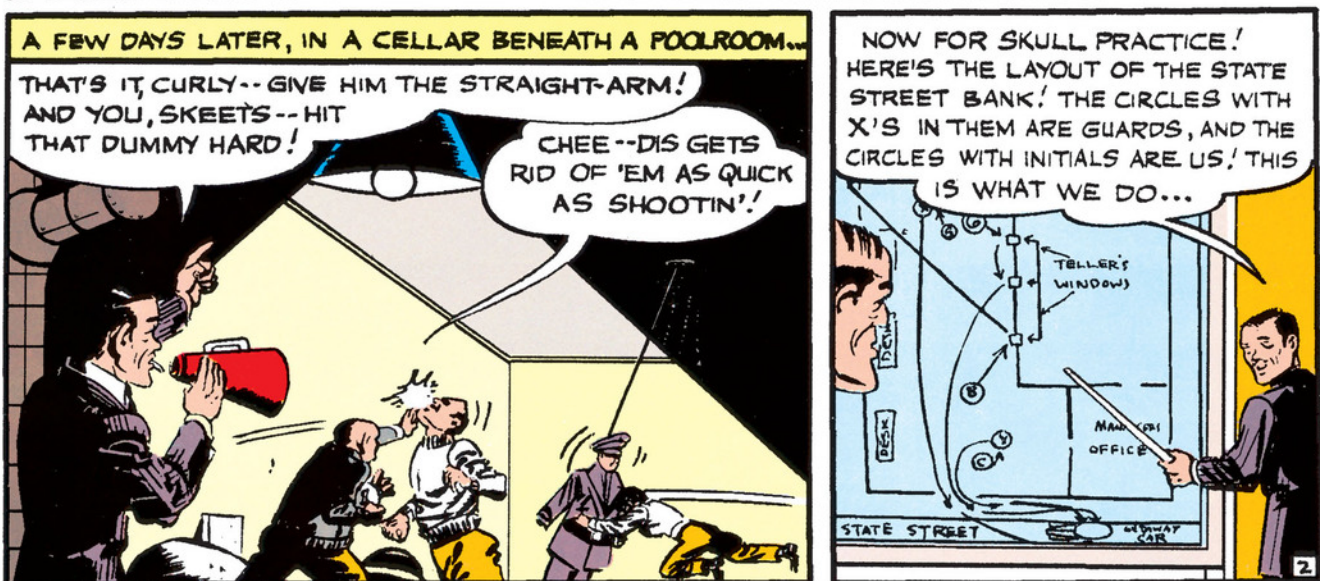
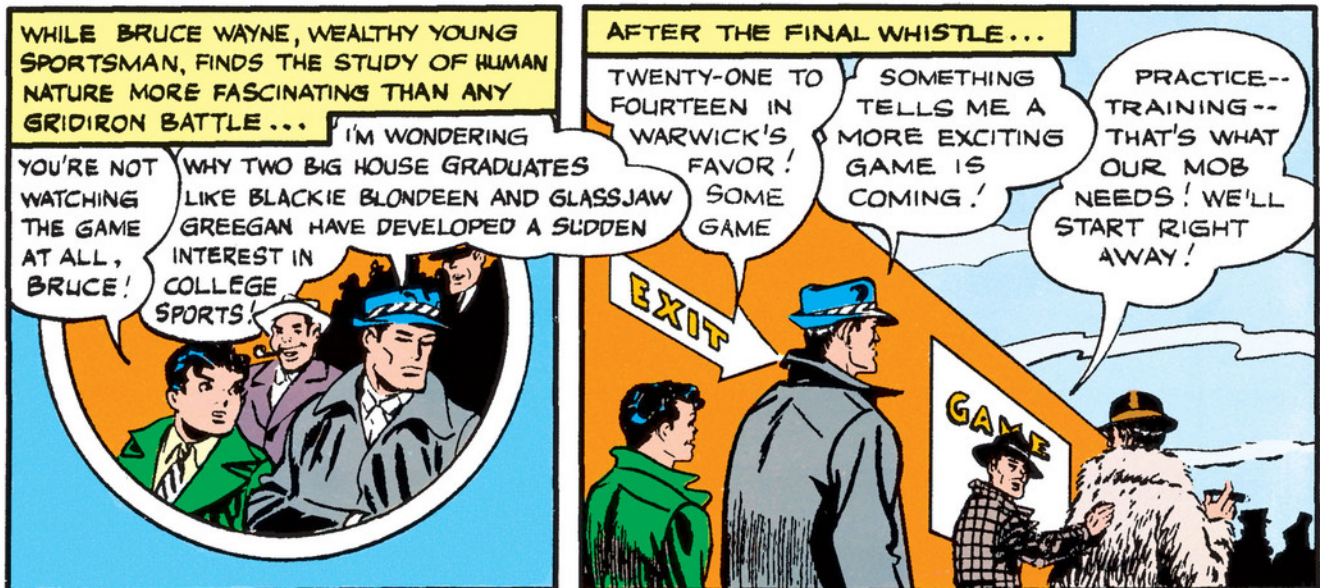
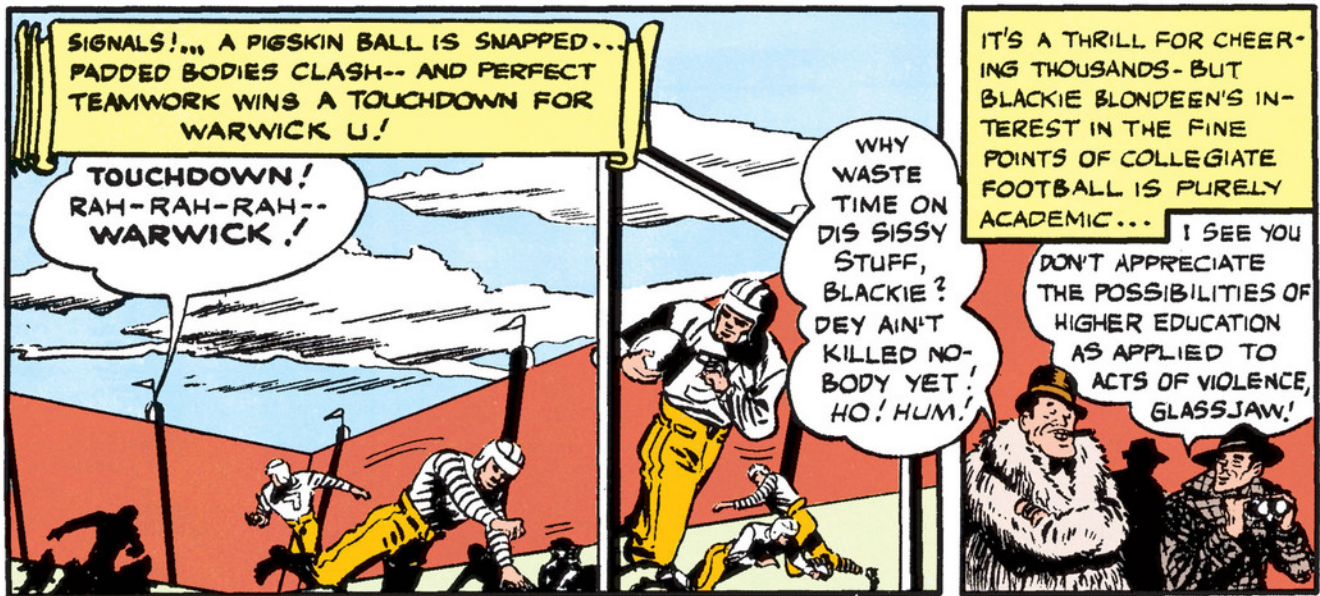
A CUNNING CROOK TAKES THE SPORTSMANSHIP OUT OF ONE OF AMERICA'S FAVORITE SPORTS AND ADAPTS ITS EXCITING PRECISION TACTICS TO THE GRIM BUSINESS OF ROBBERY - IN A SWIFT SUCCESSION OF BEWILDERING PLAYS! BUT TEAMWORK AND PRECISION ARE THE SPECIALTIES OF GOTHAM CITY'S MOST FAMOUS CRIME-SMASHING PAIR, WHO CHARGE RECKLESSLY THROUGH DEADLY PERILS TO PILE UP SCORES FOR JUSTICE AGAINST THE INCREDIBLE...

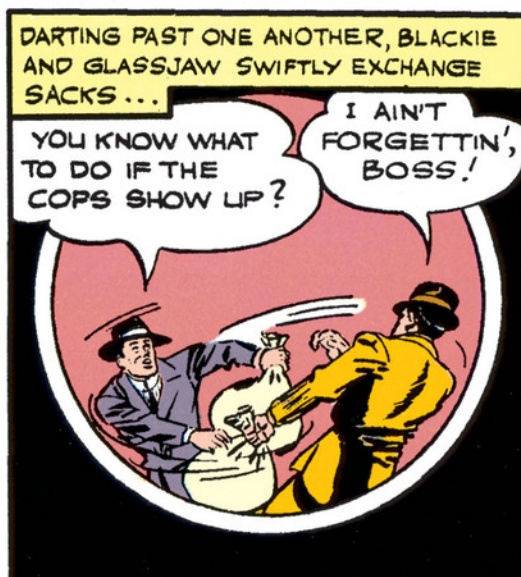
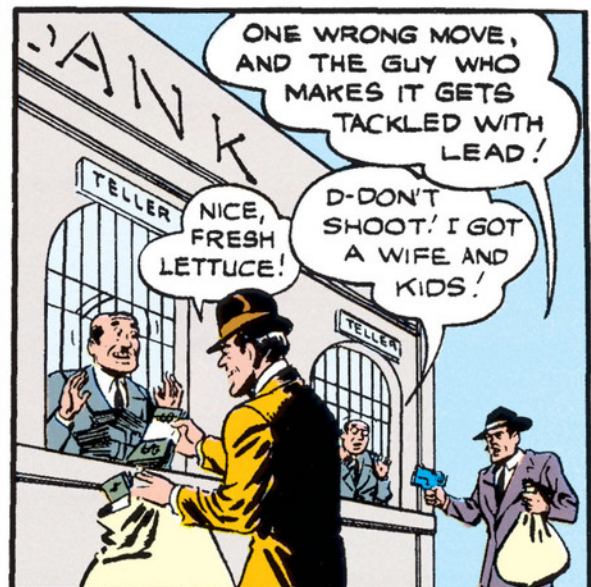
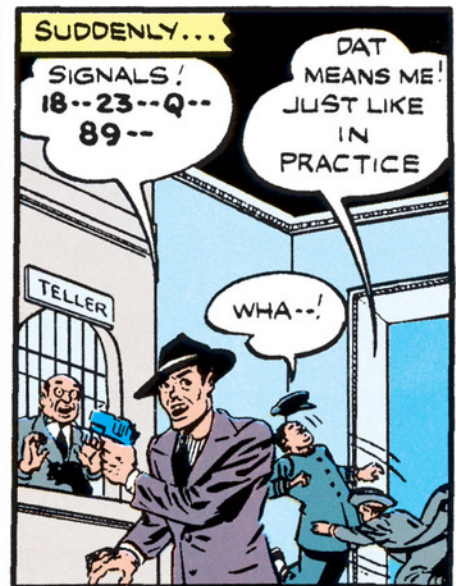
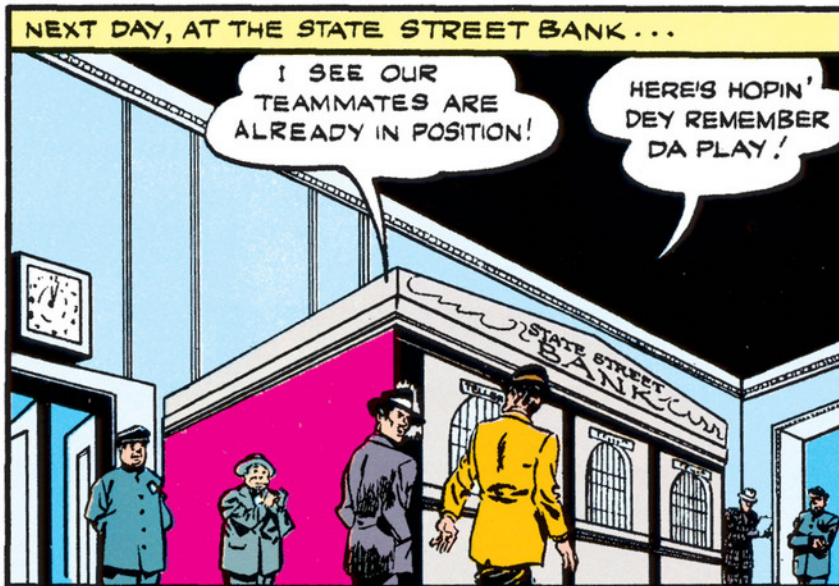
"QUARTERBACK OF CRIME!"

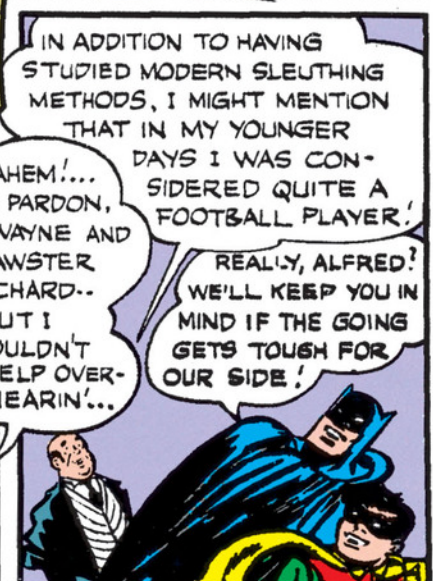
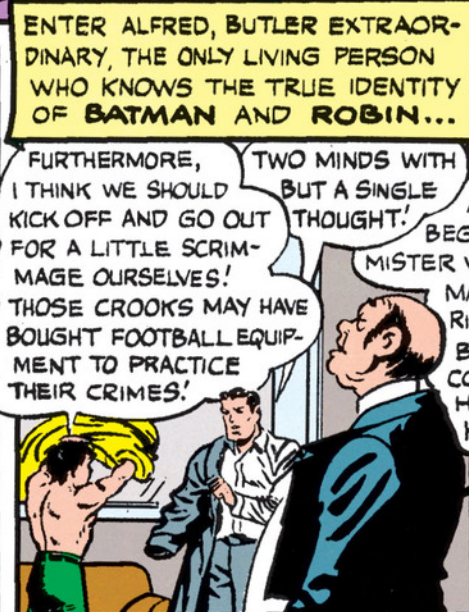
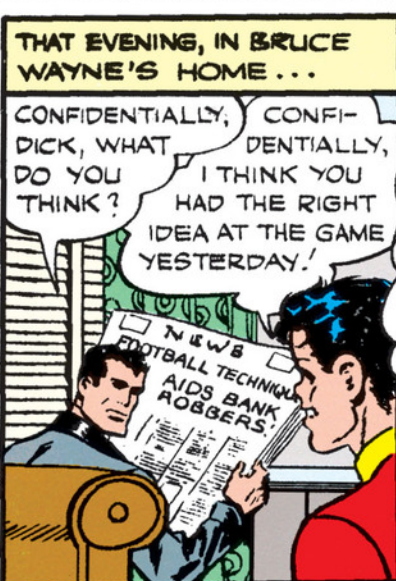
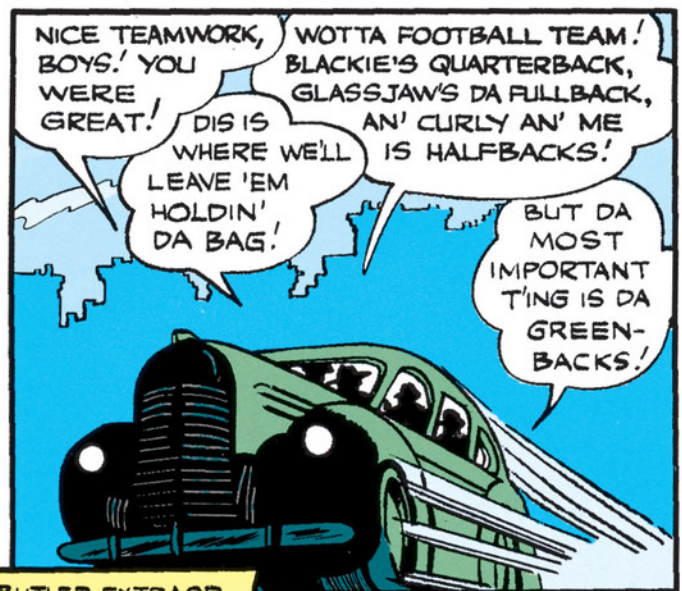
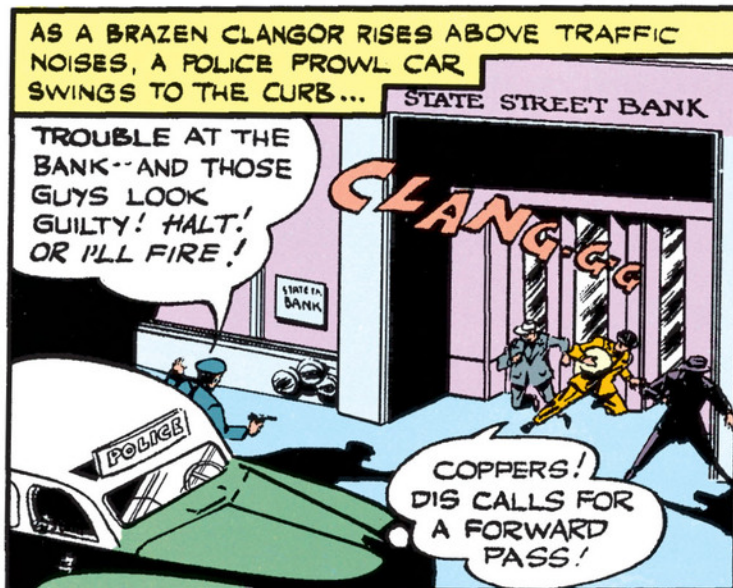
By

BOB KANE









A HURRIED TOUR OF SPORTING GOODS STORES SOON BRINGS RESULTS...

ANY PECULIAR ADDRESSES TO WHICH YOU DELIVERED FOOTBALL EQUIPMENT RECENTLY?

WHY, YES, **BATMAN**-- ONLY TWO DAYS AGO WE DELIVERED SOME TACKLING DUMMIES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT TO A POOLROOM AT-- LET ME SEE ...

FOOT-BALL STUFF TO A POOLROOM! THAT'S OUR CUE!

PRESENTLY...

THAT'S THE PLACE...

THE CELLAR WOULD BE LARGE ENOUGH FOR PRACTICE-- WONDER IF THEY'RE AROUND NOW?

SHALL WE TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH--OR JUST SMASH IN?

YES, INDEED, BLACKIE AND HIS GANG ARE AROUND--AND JUST NOW ENGAGED IN A GRAVE TACTICAL DISCUSSION...

THIS JEWELRY STORE PROBLEM IS DIFFERENT... AFTER DISPOSING OF THE GUARDS, WE'LL LOCK OURSELVES IN, BLOW THE SAFE, AND ESCAPE OVER THE ROOFS!

WE HEAR YA TALKIN', COACH!

WE'LL PRETEND THE FRAME IS THE MAIN DOOR, AND THIS DOOR IS THE VAULT... YOU COME IN WITH CURLY AND SKEETS AND TOSS ME THE BOMB!

IN DA MEANTIME, CURLY AN' SKEETS STICKS UP DA SALESMEN AN' EVERYBODY, HUH?

16-X-49-- AN' DON'T FORGET, EVEN IF THE FUSE ISN'T LIGHTED, THAT'S A REAL BOMB! IT'LL EXPLODE IF IT DROPS HARD ENOUGH!

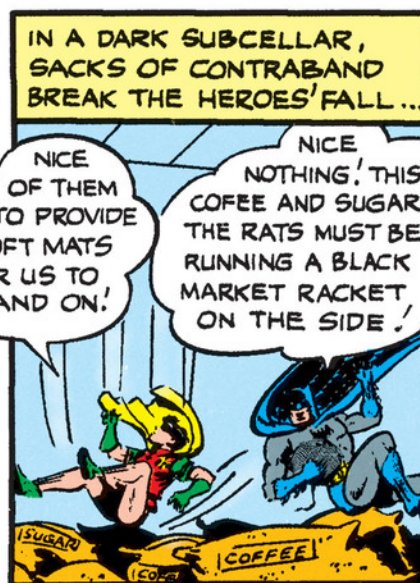
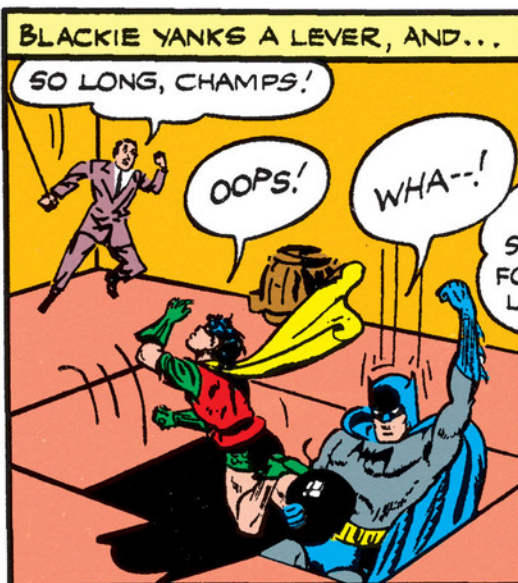
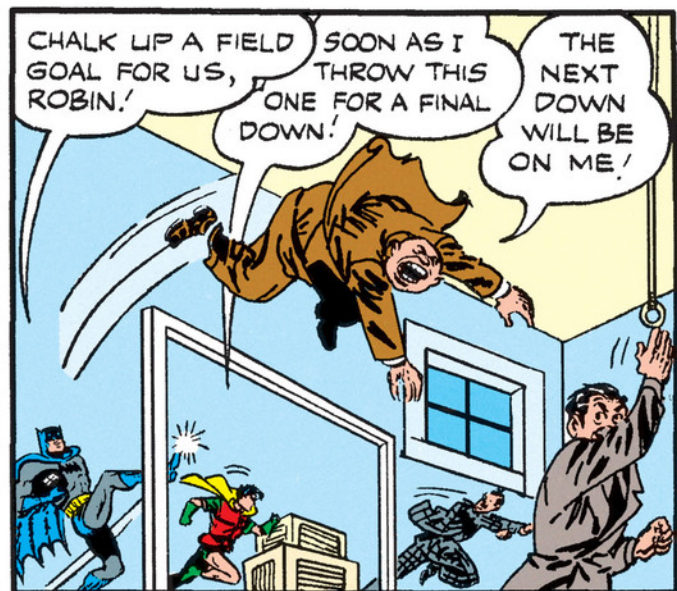
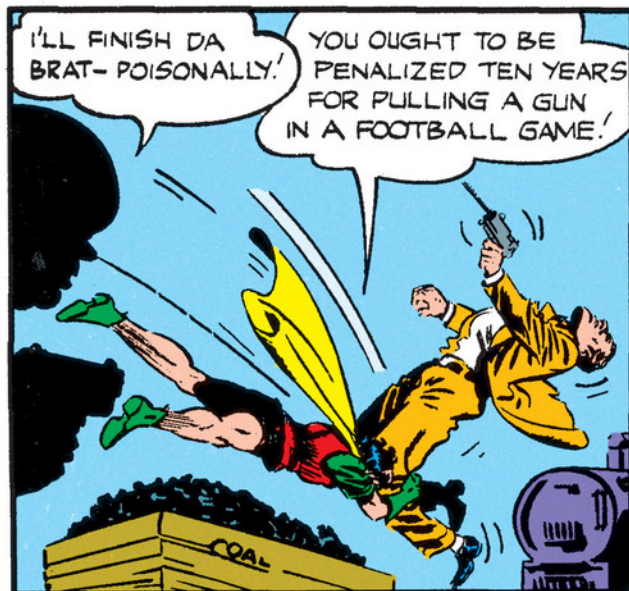
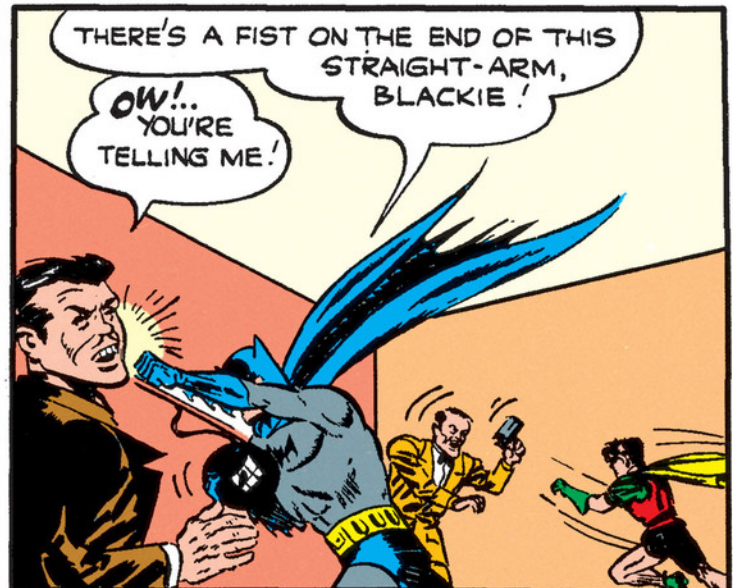
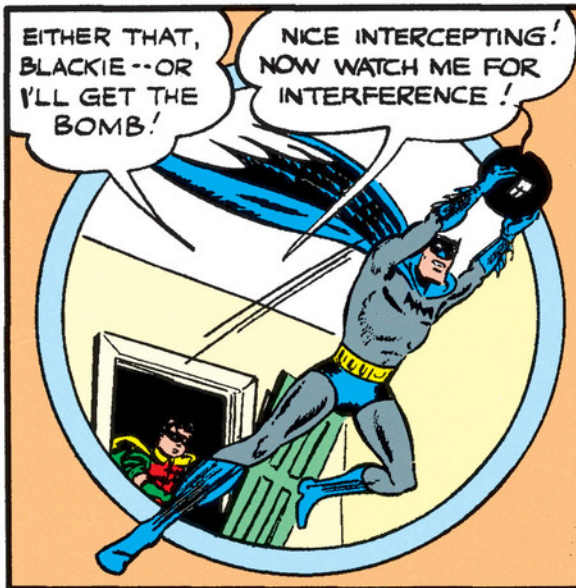
IT'LL BE YOUR OWN FAULT IF YA DON'T CATCH IT!

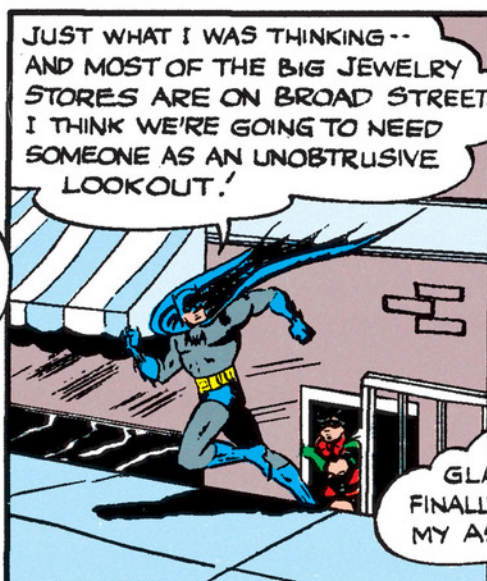
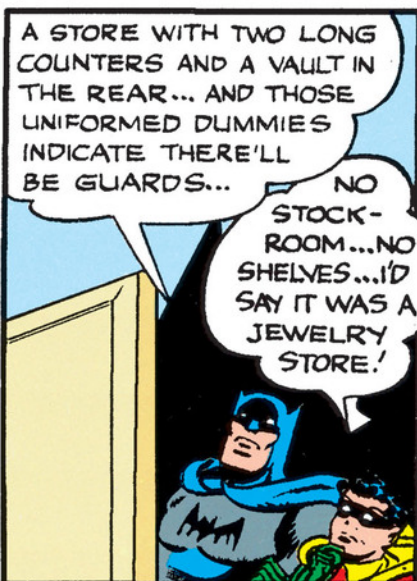
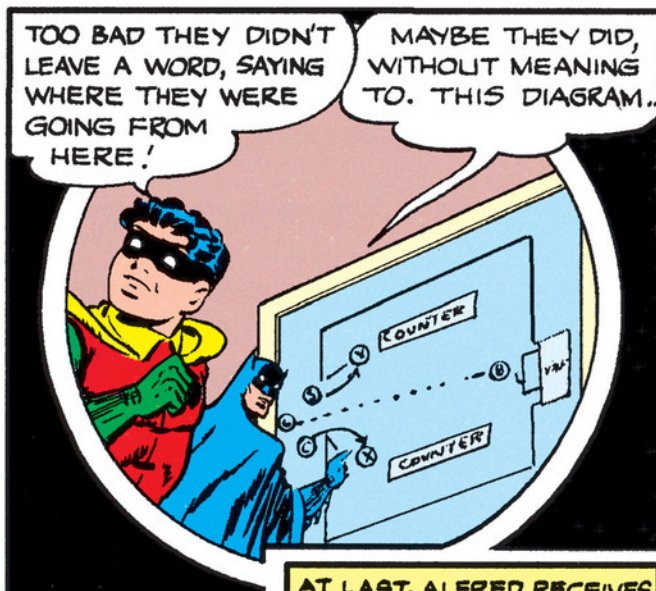
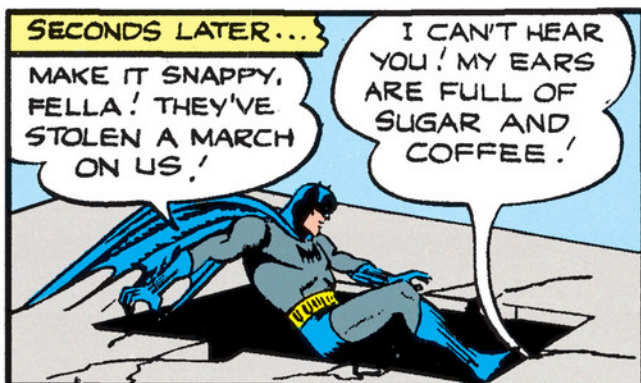
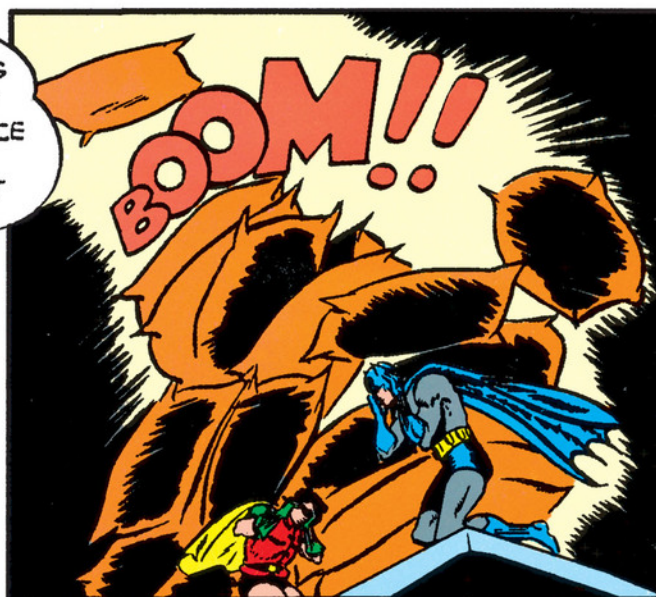
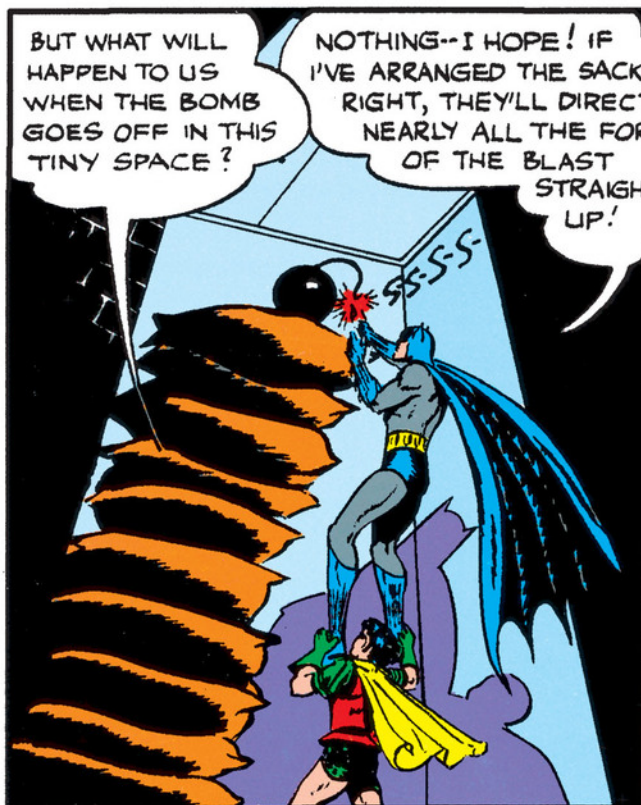
SUDDENLY...

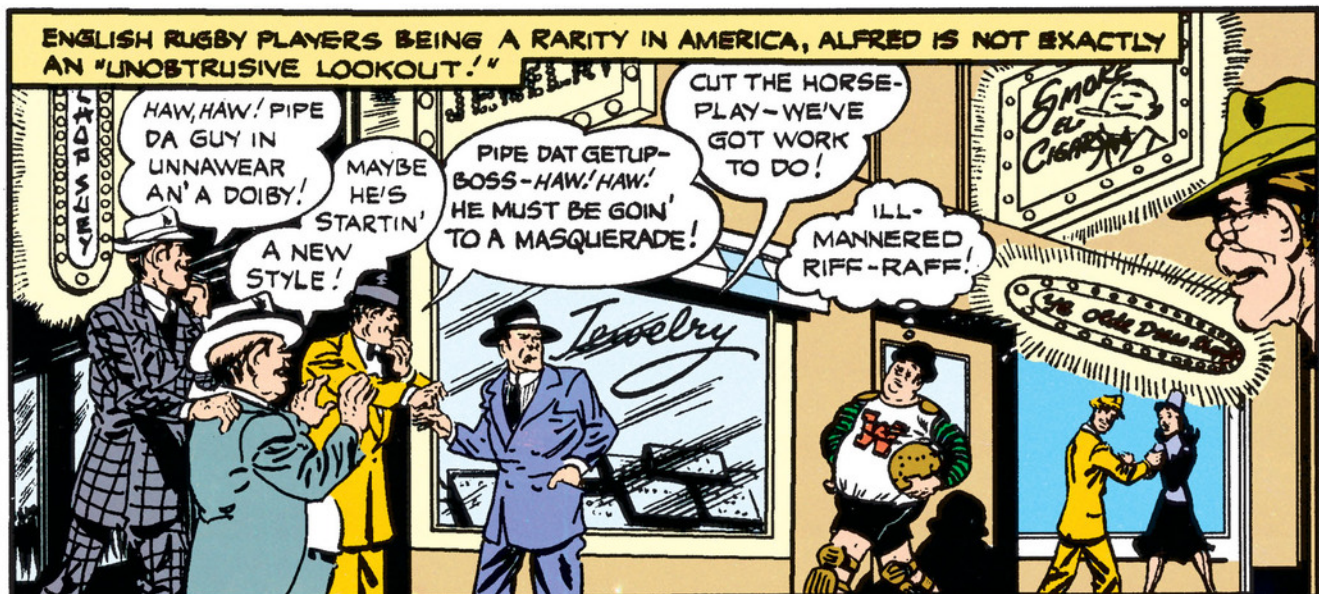
PLAYING GAMES? HOW NICE!

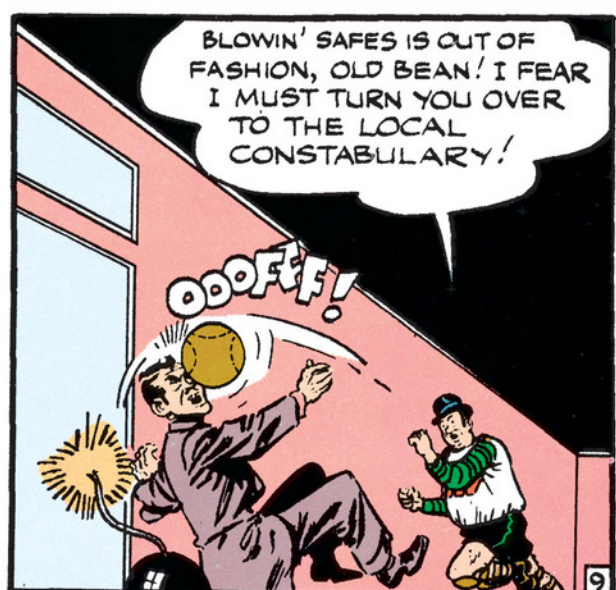
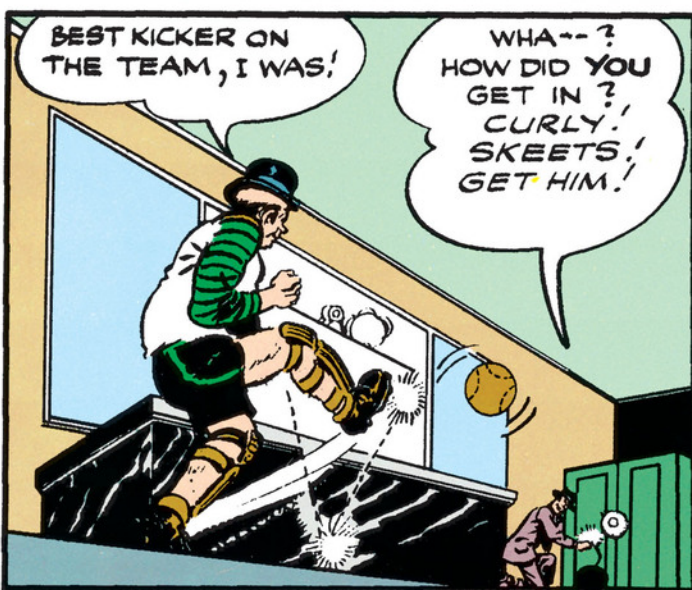
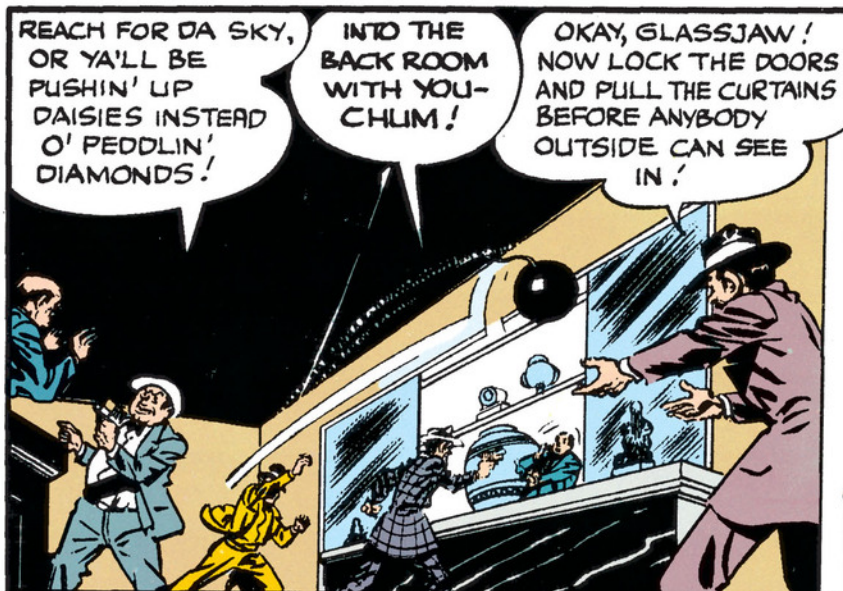
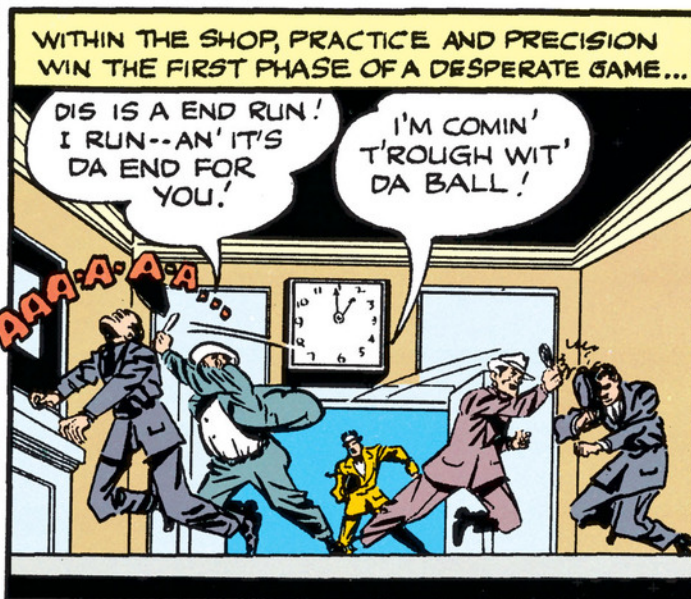
DUCK, BLACKIE! MAYBE DA BOMB'LL GET HIM!

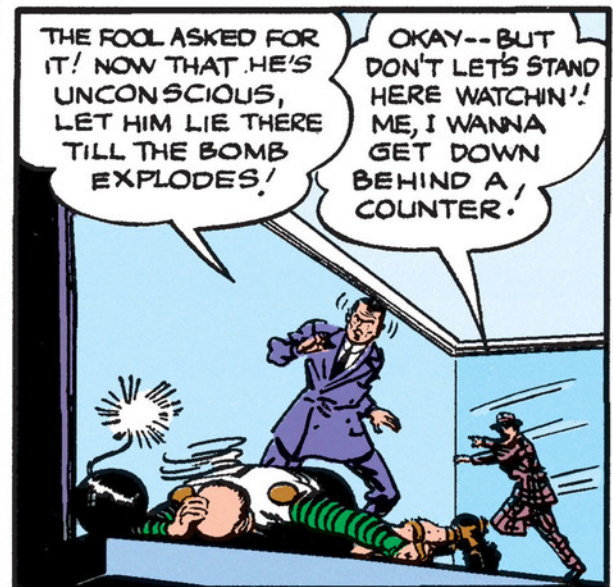
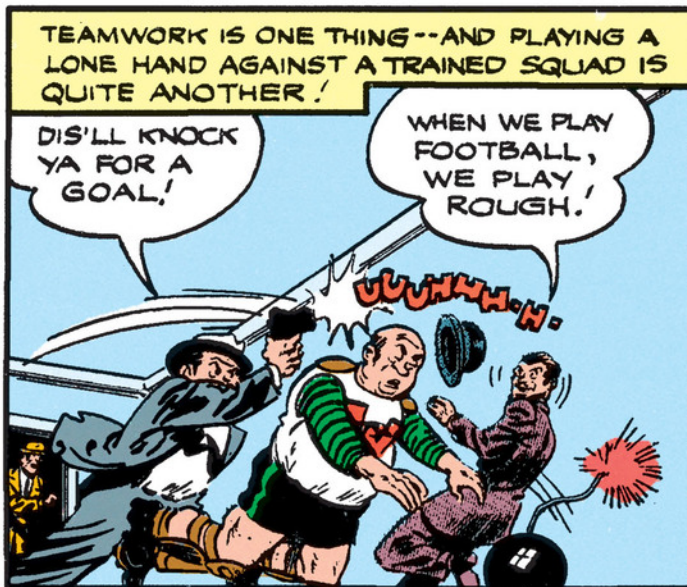
BATMAN!





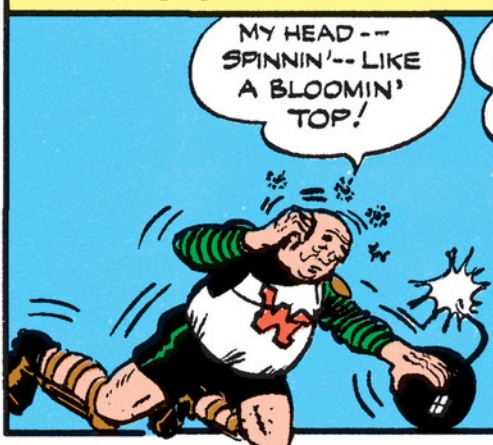




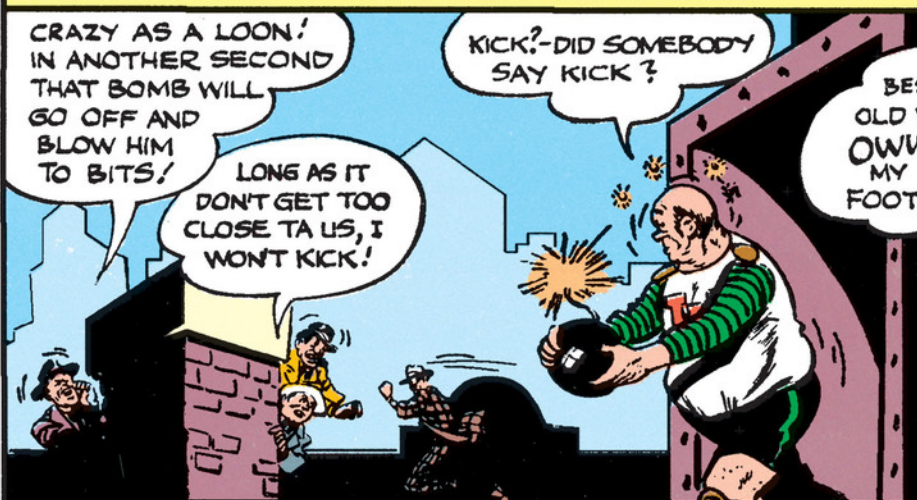


THE THUGS HAVE MISJUDGED ALFRED'S CAPACITY FOR ABSORBING PUNISHMENT, HOWEVER! STUNNED AND DAZED THOUGH HE IS, HIS FINGERS CLOSE ON THE BOMB...

HIS SHOCKED BRAIN REMEMBERS ONLY THAT HIS LATEST THOUGHTS WERE OF FOOTBALL--AND THAT HIS EARLIEST TRAINING TAUGHT HIM NEVER TO QUIT A GAME WHILE HE COULD STAND!



AS IF IN A DREAM, THE BATTERED BUTLER STUMBLES UP THE STAIRS AFTER THE FRIGHTENED CRIMINALS...



ON A HIGHER ROOFTOP NEARBY, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN KEEP THEIR VIGIL...

NO BAT SIGNAL IN THE SKY YET...WONDER IF WE GUESSED WRONG?

I THINK I SEE SOMEONE MOVING ON THE ROOF OF THAT JEWELRY STORE!

A SECOND LATER...

GREAT SCOTT--A BOMB!

AND RIGHT UNDER IT ARE THE LADS WE'RE LOOKING FOR!

BOOM!

THE BATMAN'S SILKEN ROPE SWISHES THROUGH THE AIR... WE'LL SHOW THEM AN AERIAL ATTACK THAT ENDS IN A LINE PLUNGE!

--S-S-W-I-S-H--

THIS IS WHERE I USE MY HEAD TO BUTT WITH!

CAPES FLAPPING IN THE NIGHT LIKE THE WINGS OF MONSTER BIRDS OF PREY, THE DYNAMIC DUO SWOOPS IN A BREATHTAKING ARC...

SIGNALS! TWENTY-THREE--SKIDOO!

I-IF --I-I-C-COULD-- ONLY K-KEEP MY H-HAND-S-S-STEADY!

YIPE! IT'S DEM!

HIT THAT LINE!

LOOKS AS IF YOU'RE TRYING TO GO RIGHT THROUGH CENTER, ROBIN!

MY FIST!

MY JAW!

MY HEAD!

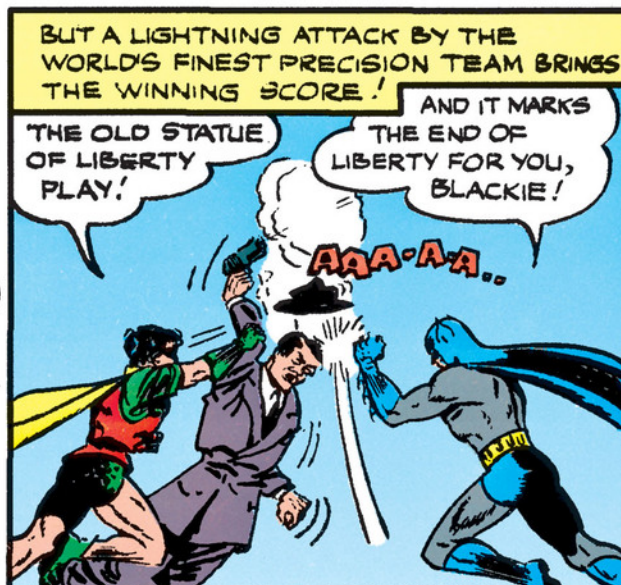
MY STUMMICK!



I'VE GOT ONE MORE SURE-FIRE PLAY LEFT, BATMAN!

OH, OH!

HUH?..



BUT A LIGHTNING ATTACK BY THE WORLD'S FINEST PRECISION TEAM BRINGS THE WINNING SCORE!

THE OLD STATUE OF LIBERTY PLAY!

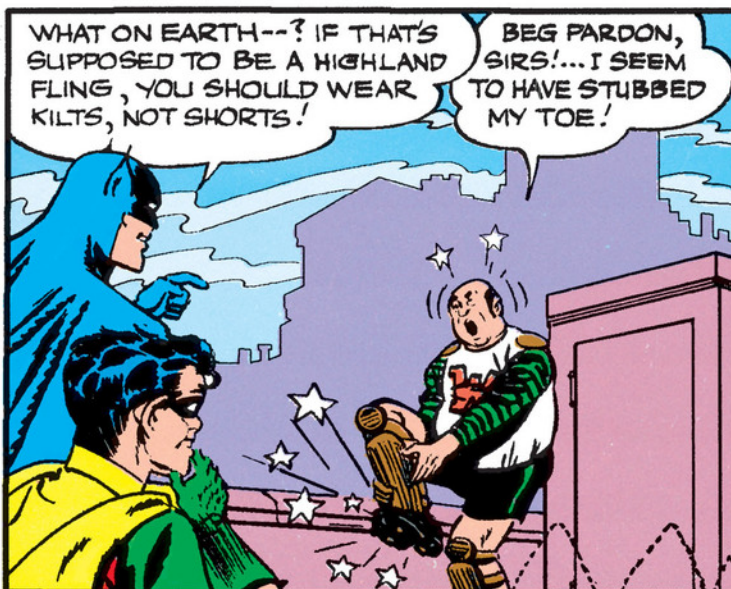
AND IT MARKS THE END OF LIBERTY FOR YOU, BLACKIE!

AAA-A-A..



MAYBE THE WARDEN WILL LET THEM TRY OUT FOR THE PRISON ELEVEN!

ALFRED! OR ARE MY EYES PLAYING TRICKS ON ME?



WHAT ON EARTH--? IF THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A HIGHLAND FLING, YOU SHOULD WEAR KILTS, NOT SHORTS!

BEG PARDON, SIRS!...I SEEM TO HAVE STUBBED MY TOE!



NEXT DAY..

I HAVE TICKETS TO THE FOOTBALL GAME THIS AFTERNOON, ALFRED, BUT I CAN'T MAKE IT... WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

THANK YOU VERY KINDLY, SIR, BUT I THINK NOT...



AFTER ALL, FOOTBALL IS A CHILDISH SPORT! I HAD PLANNED TO SPEND THE AFTERNOON PURSUIN' MY CRIMINOLOGICAL STUDIES IN AN ARM-CHAIR!

BOB KANE

No. 12

WINTER ISSUE

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



BATMAN

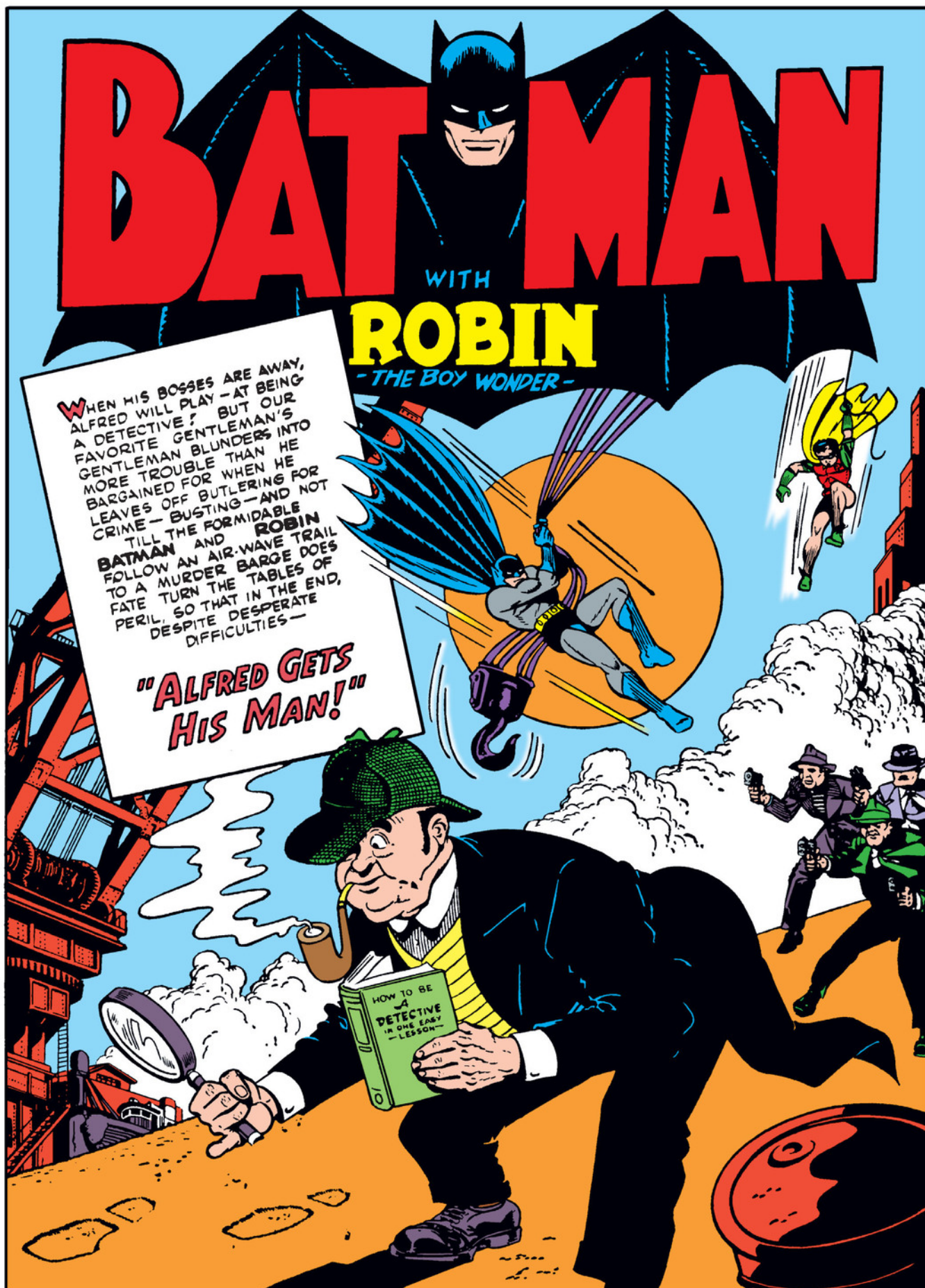
WITH

ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

WHEN HIS BOSSES ARE AWAY, ALFRED WILL PLAY - AT BEING A DETECTIVE? BUT OUR FAVORITE GENTLEMAN'S GENTLEMAN BLUNDERS INTO MORE TROUBLE THAN HE BARGAINED FOR WHEN HE LEAVES OFF BUTLERING FOR CRIME - BUSTING - AND NOT TILL THE FORMIDABLE BATMAN AND ROBIN FOLLOW AN AIR-WAVE TRAIL TO A MURDER BARGE DOES FATE TURN THE TABLES OF PERIL, SO THAT IN THE END, DESPITE DESPERATE DIFFICULTIES -

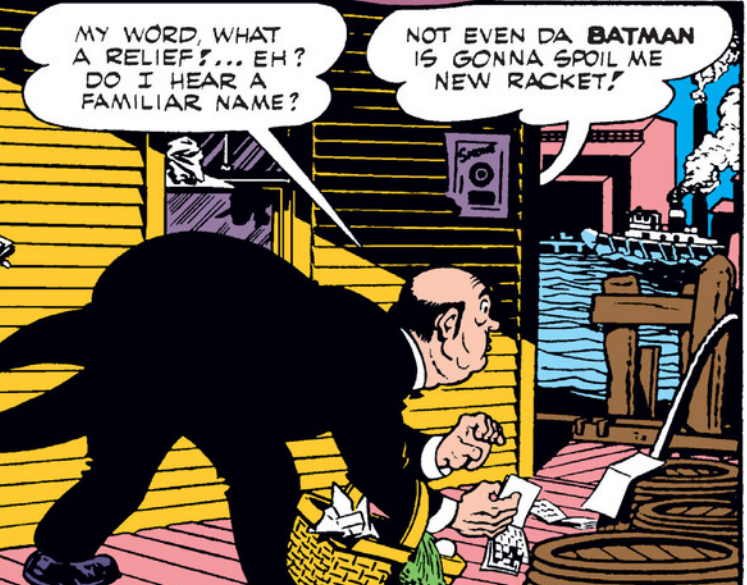
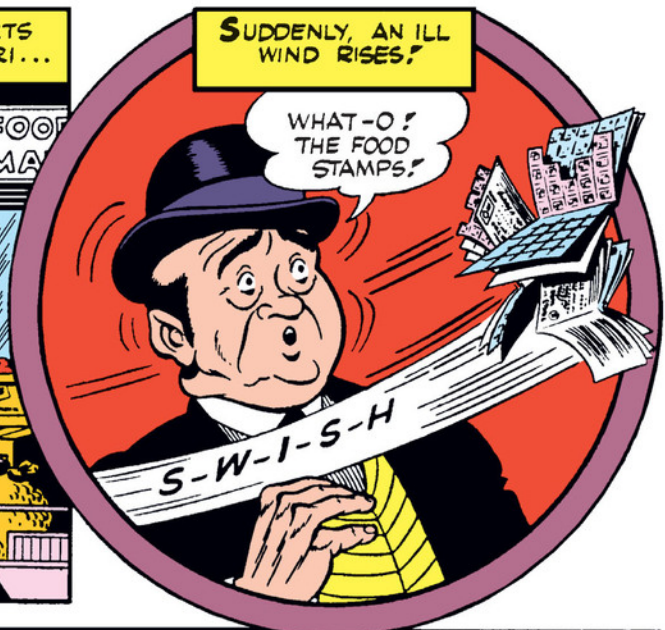
"ALFRED GETS HIS MAN!"



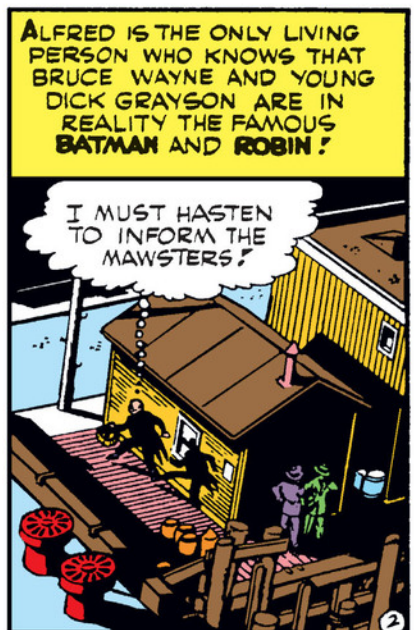
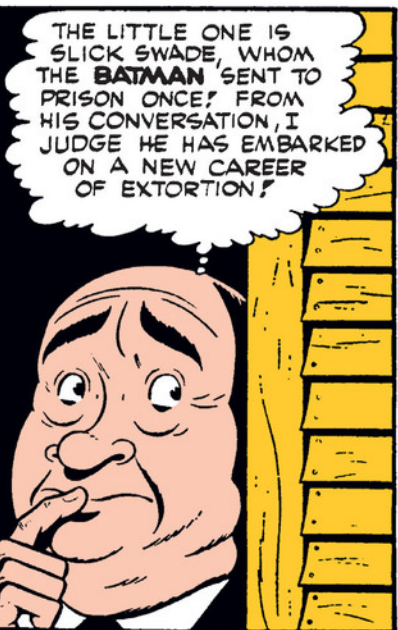
ALFRED, BUTLER-IN-CHIEF TO BRUCE WAYNE, STARTS HOMEWARD AFTER A SUCCESSFUL MARKETING SAFARI...

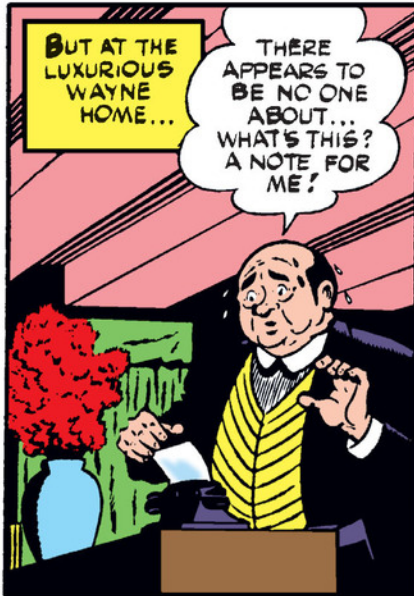


SUDDENLY, AN ILL WIND RISES!



A SMALL, BUT TOUGH UNDER-WORLDLING SPEAKS HIS PIECE...





BUT AT THE LUXURIOUS WAYNE HOME...

THERE APPEARS TO BE NO ONE ABOUT... WHAT'S THIS? A NOTE FOR ME?

Alfred:
Don't expect Dick and me for dinner. We have gone deep sea fishing and won't be home till late.
Bruce Wayne

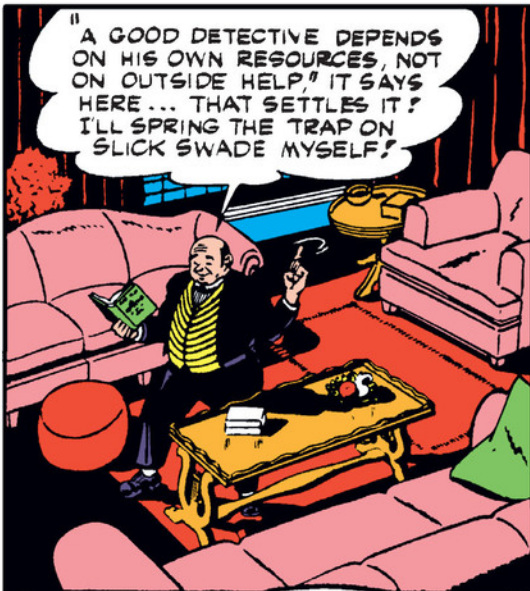


ANGLIN' WHILE ROME BURNS, AS IT WERE? A PRETTY KETTLE O' FISH?

WHEN IN DOUBT, ALFRED CONSULTS HIS FAVORITE REFERENCE VOLUME...



WHAT TO DO? HERE'S A PERFECT CHANCE TO CATCH A ROGUE, AND I CAN'T LET IT PASS!

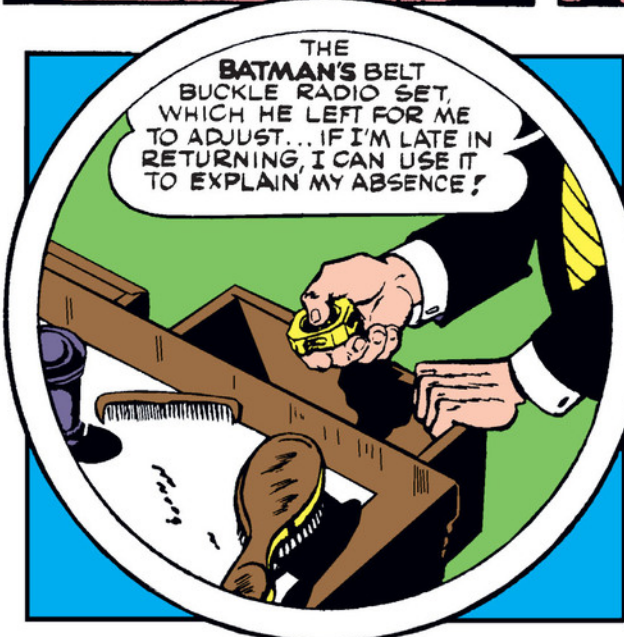


"A GOOD DETECTIVE DEPENDS ON HIS OWN RESOURCES, NOT ON OUTSIDE HELP," IT SAYS HERE... THAT SETTLES IT! I'LL SPRING THE TRAP ON SLICK SWADE MYSELF!



LIKE HIS FAMED EMPLOYERS, ALFRED PREFERS TO WORK IN DISGUISE...

IN CASE I DECIDE TO LET THE BATMAN AND ROBIN ASSIST ME, IT WOULD BE BEST IF NO ONE RECOGNIZED ME AS MR. WAYNE'S BUTLER...

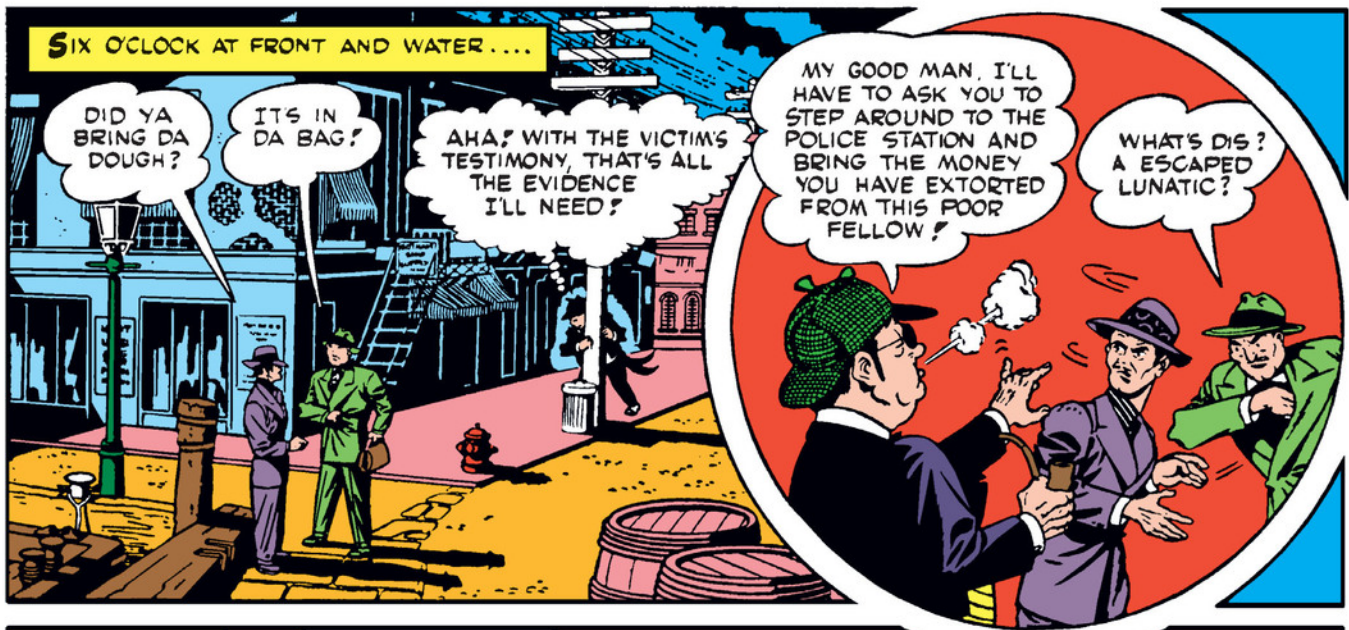


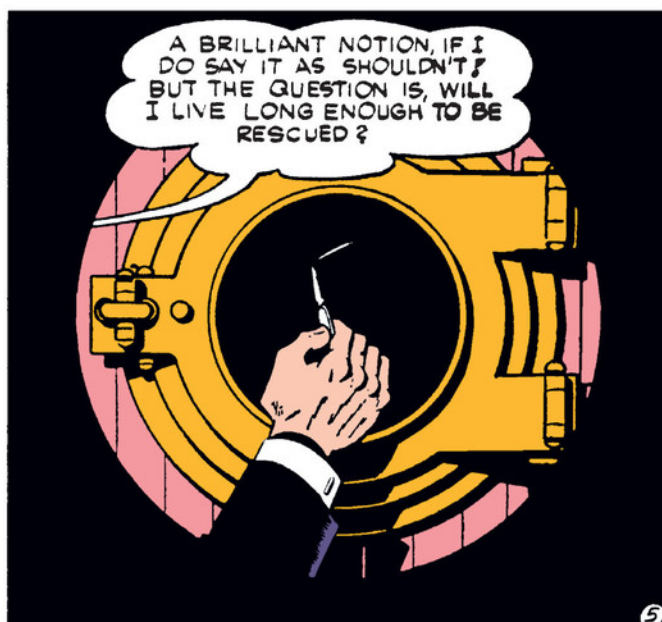
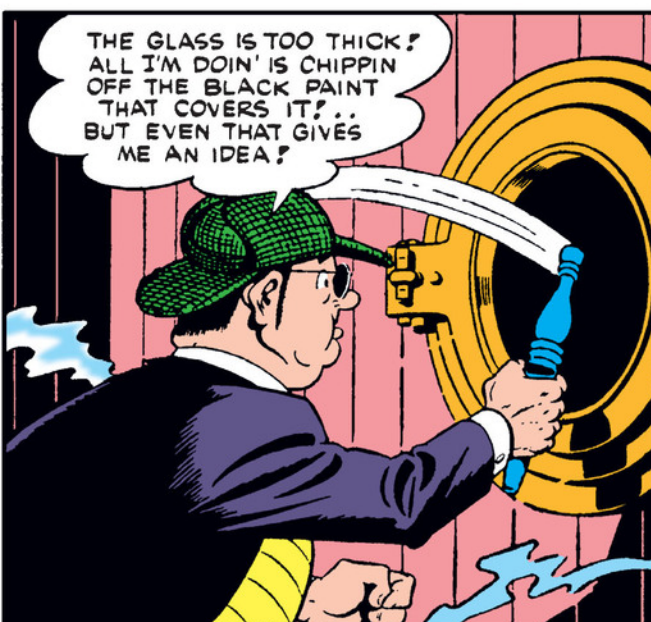
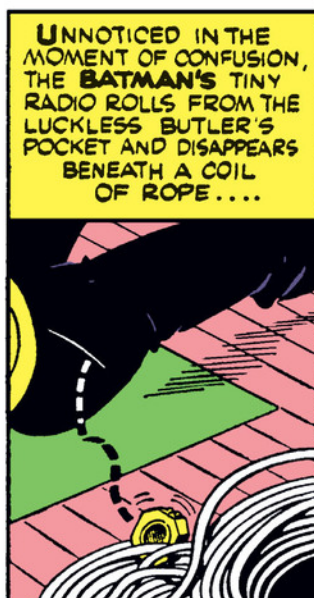
THE BATMAN'S BELT BUCKLE RADIO SET, WHICH HE LEFT FOR ME TO ADJUST... IF I'M LATE IN RETURNING, I CAN USE IT TO EXPLAIN MY ABSENCE!



I'LL WAGER THEY'LL BE SURPRISED NO END!

SO THEY SHALL, ALFRED—AND SO SHALL YOU, SOONER THAN YOU THINK!!





AS MANY ANOTHER MAN HAS DONE WHEN FACING DEATH ALONE, ALFRED TALKS TO HIMSELF...

WHAT A SHAME THAT I SHOULD DIE IN THE FULL FLOWER OF MY CRIMINOLOGICAL CAREER!



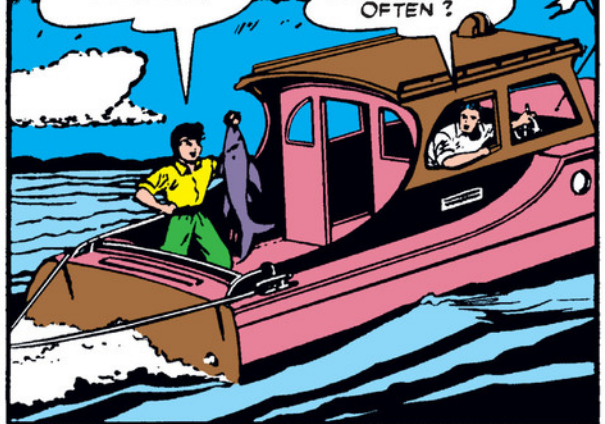
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TRIED IT ALONE! I SHOULD HAVE WAITED FOR THE BATMAN AND ROBIN! NOW THEY'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HAPPENED!



UNAWARE OF THE TRAGEDY FACING THEIR FAVORITE FACTOTUM, BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON RETURN FROM BLUE WATER...

WE CERTAINLY GOT SOME BEAUTIES!

WHY DON'T WE DO THIS MORE OFTEN?



ABRUPTLY...

... SHOULD HAVE WAITED FOR THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

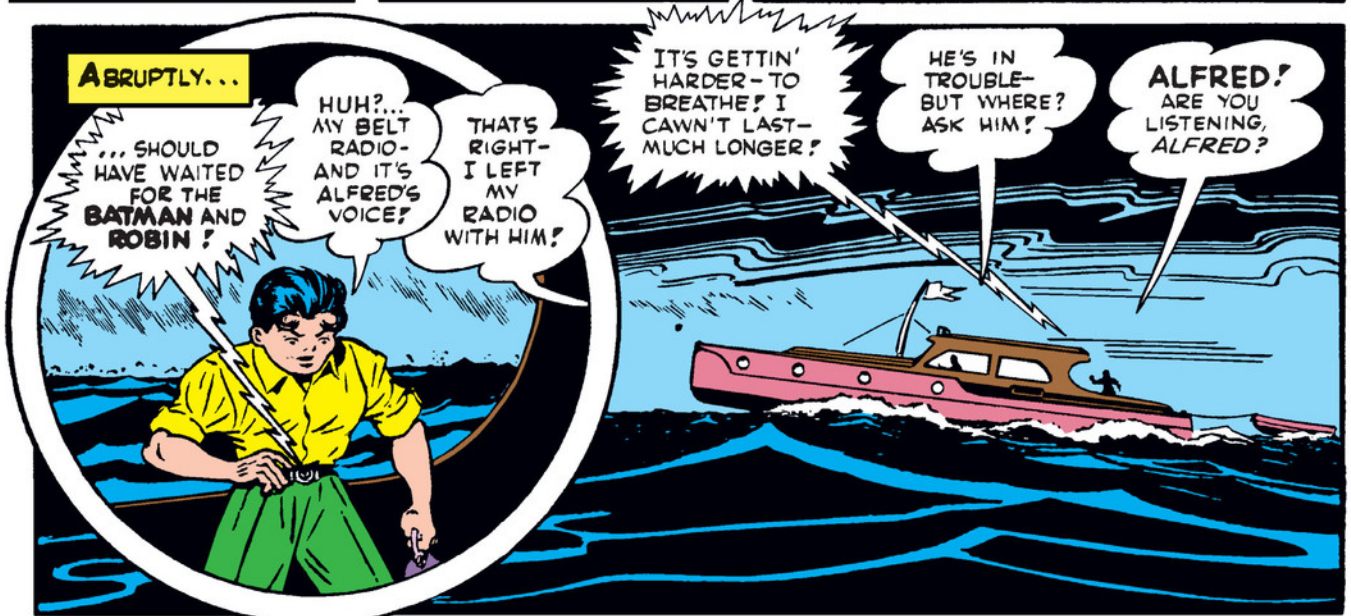
HUH?... MY BELT RADIO- AND IT'S ALFRED'S VOICE?

THAT'S RIGHT- I LEFT MY RADIO WITH HIM!

IT'S GETTIN' HARDER- TO BREATHE! I CAWN'T LAST- MUCH LONGER!

HE'S IN TROUBLE- BUT WHERE? ASK HIM!

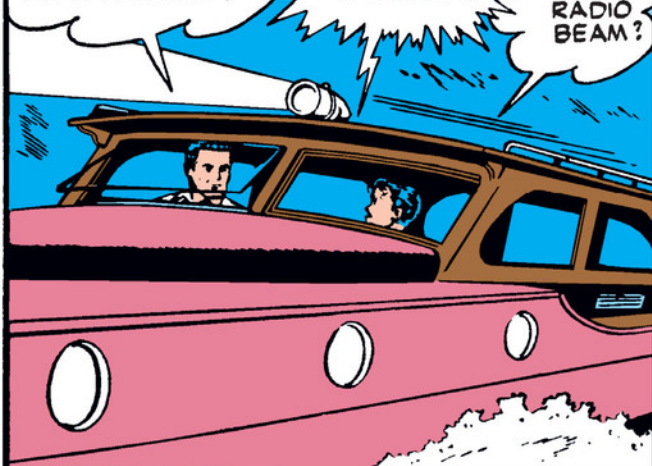
ALFRED! ARE YOU LISTENING, ALFRED?



NO ANSWER... THE RECEIVER NEEDED ADJUSTING- AND ALFRED PROBABLY DIDN'T FIX IT PROPERLY!

WHAT A TERRIBLE WAY TO DIE?... AND NOBODY- WILL EVER CATCH THE MURDERERS!

CAN'T WE FIND HIM BY FOLLOWING THE RADIO BEAM?

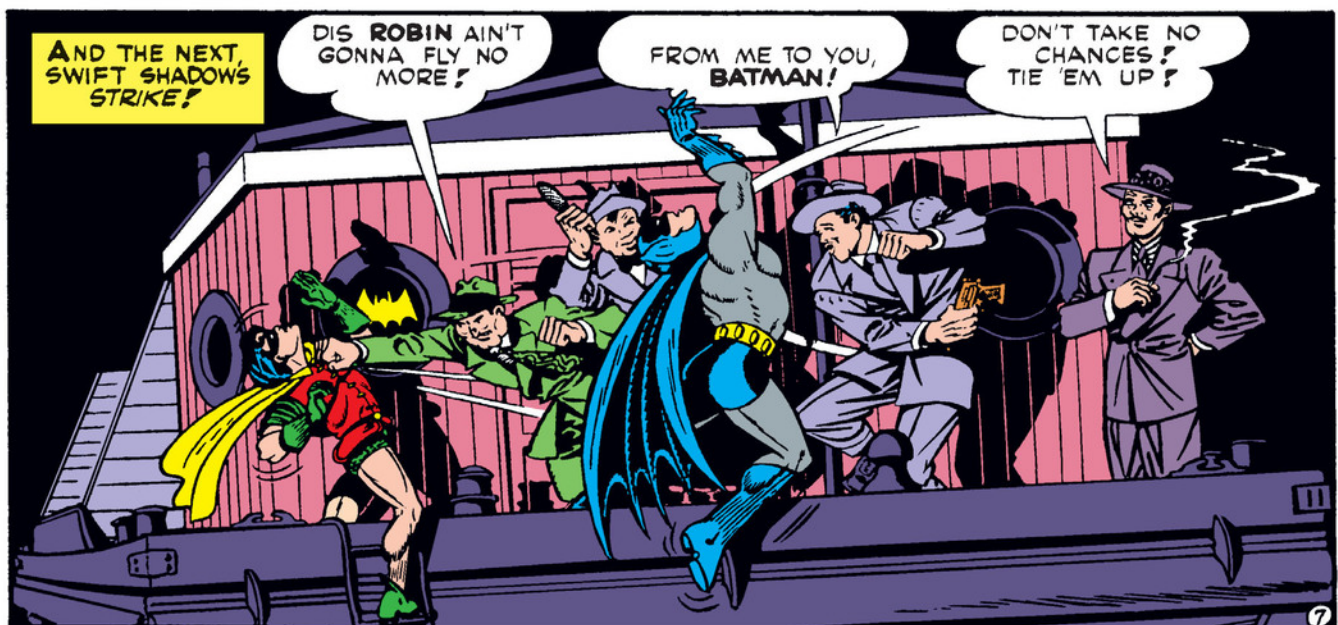
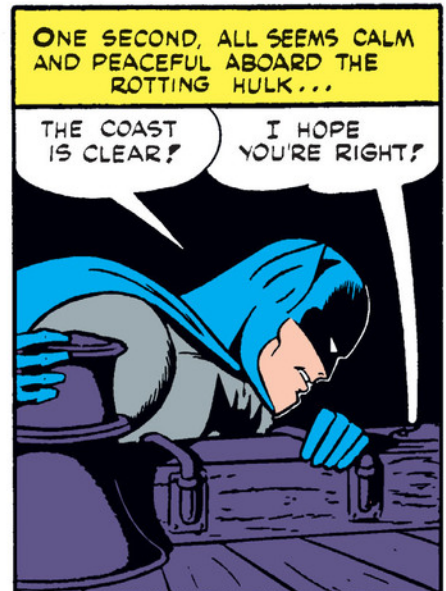
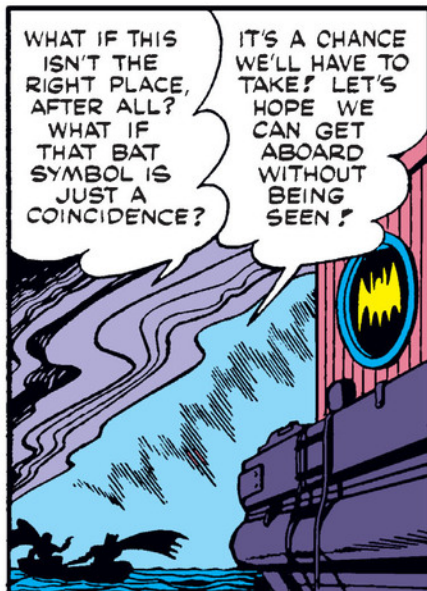
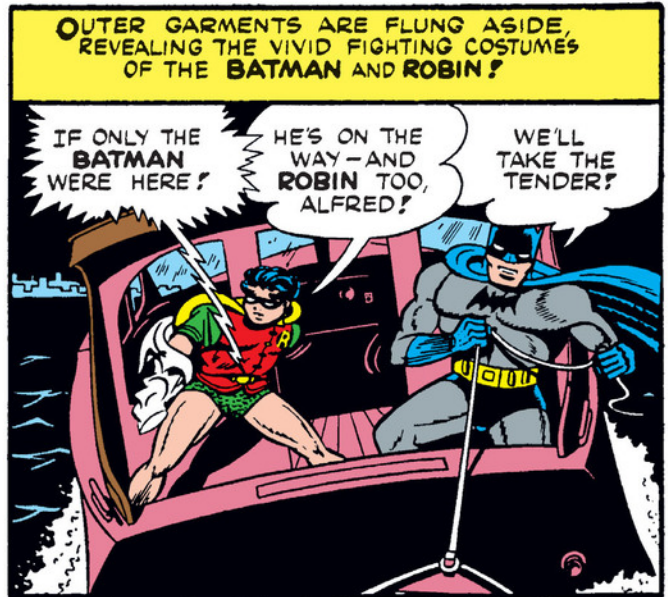
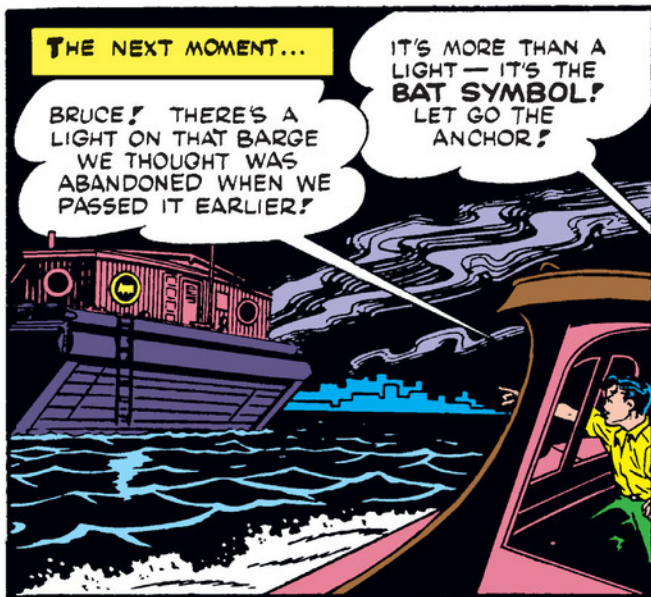


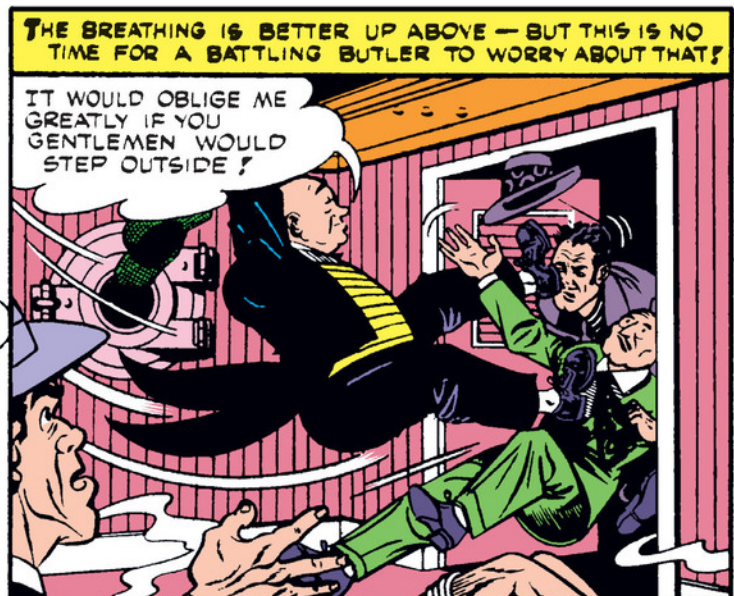
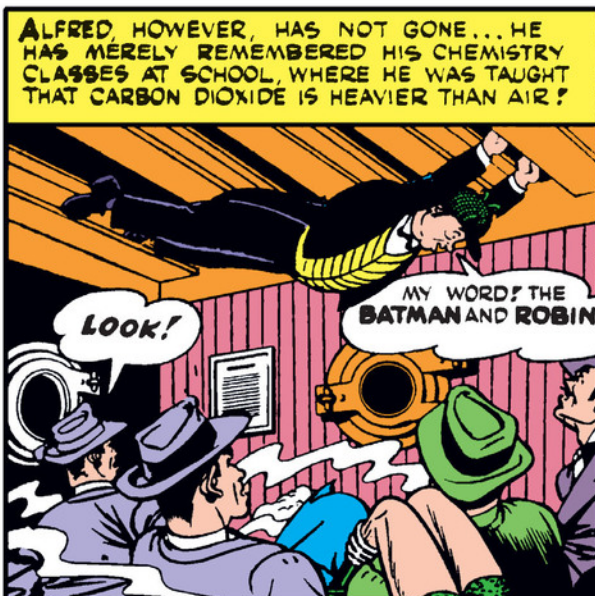
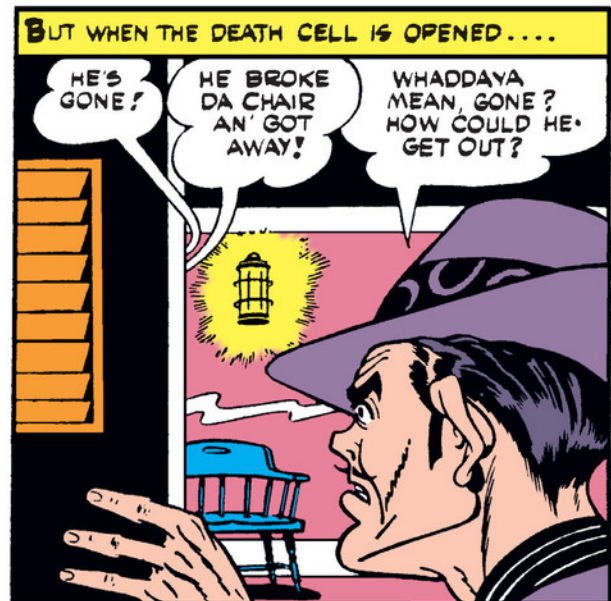
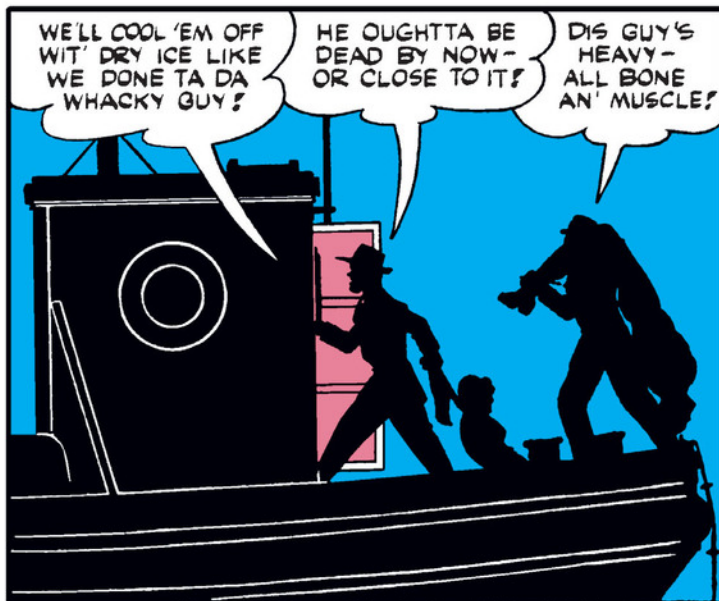
GAS... GETTING ME...

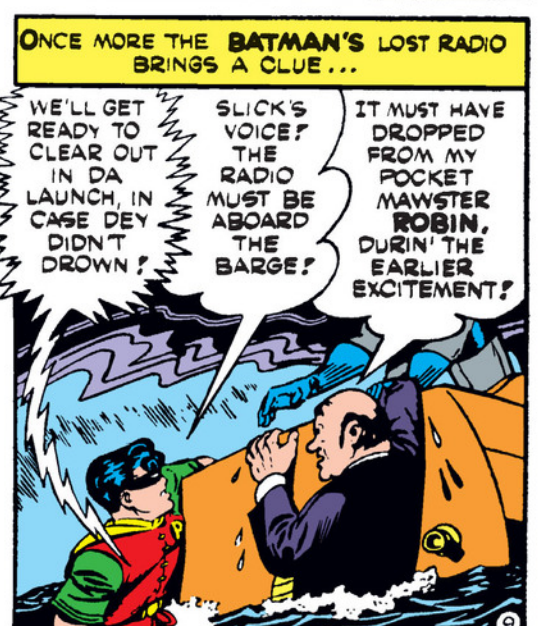
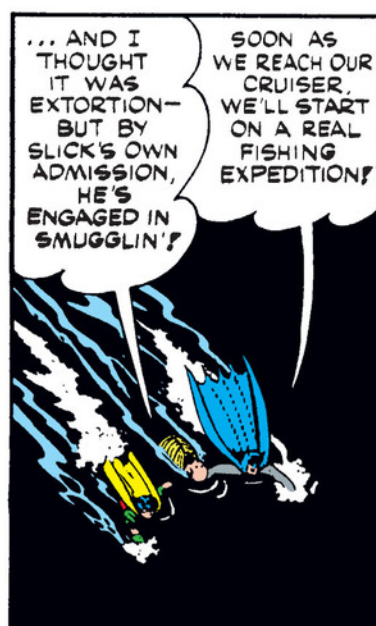
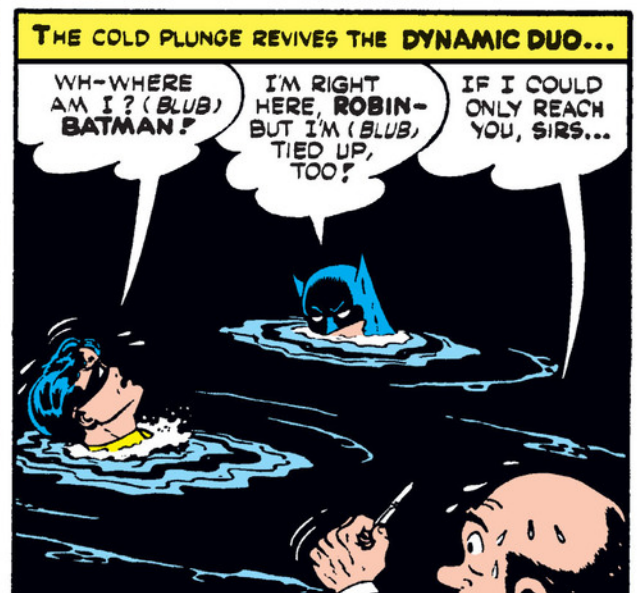
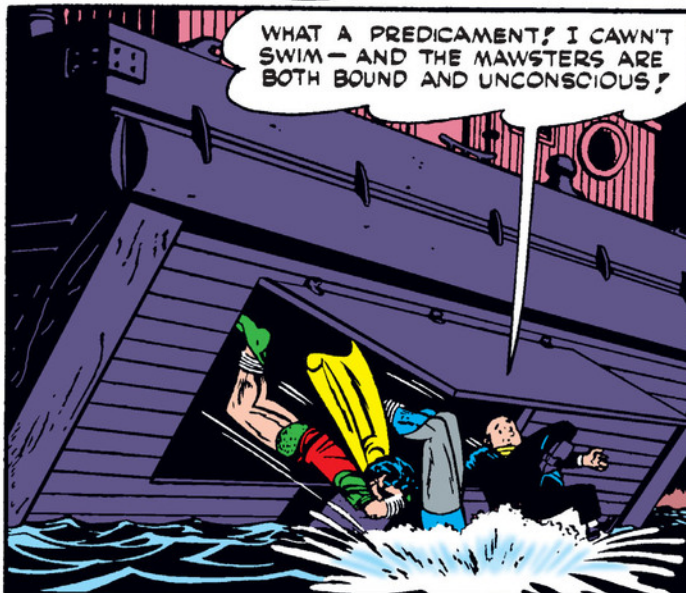
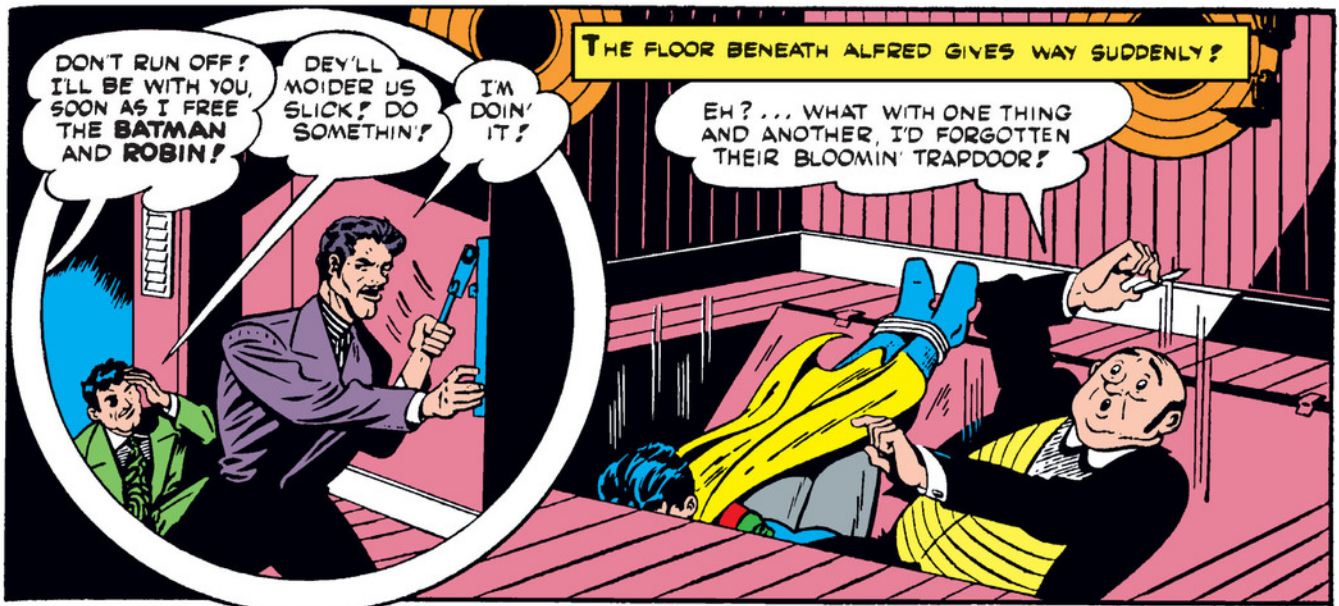
THE SIGNAL IS GROWING STRONGER!

WITHOUT SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS WE CAN'T FIND HIS EXACT LOCATION- BUT WE'LL DO OUR BEST!









CAMOUFLAGED DOORS IN THE BOW OF THE BARGE SWING OPEN, AND...

WE'LL JUST STAND BY AN' SEE IF DEY TRY TA GET BACK ABOARD?

IF DEY DO, BE READY TA SCRAM!



THE CRIMINALS KEEP A GOOD WATCH— BUT IN THE WRONG DIRECTION!

NOT A SIGN OF 'EM? TEN CLAMS SAYS DEY'RE IN DAVY JONES' LOCKER!

WOT A BEE-OOTIFUL T'UGHT!



WANT TO GO FIRST, ALFRED?

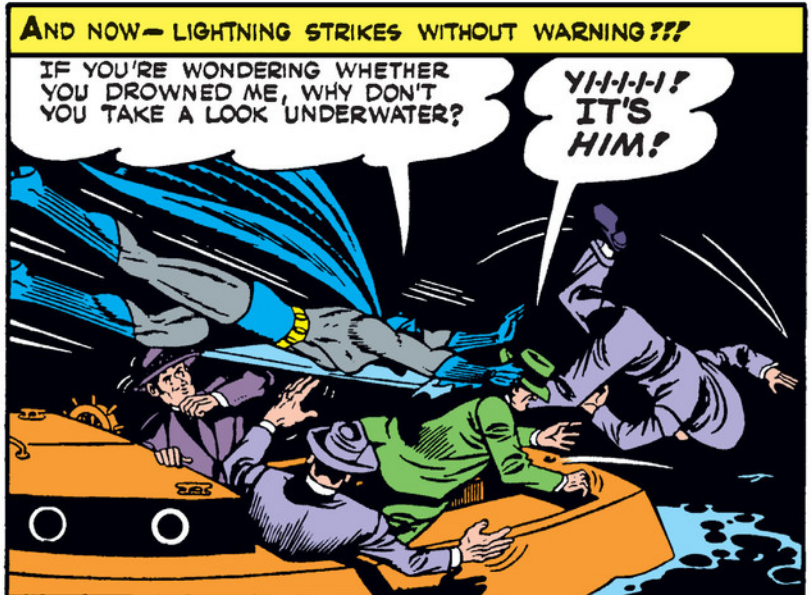
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, SIR! WITH THESE WATER WINGS YOU PROVIDED ME WITH, I CAN SWIM LIKE A SWAN!



AND NOW— LIGHTNING STRIKES WITHOUT WARNING???

IF YOU'RE WONDERING WHETHER YOU DROWNED ME, WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A LOOK UNDERWATER?

YH-H-H! IT'S HIM!



AS A MATTER OF FACT, CHUM, IT'S BOTH OF US!

HELP!

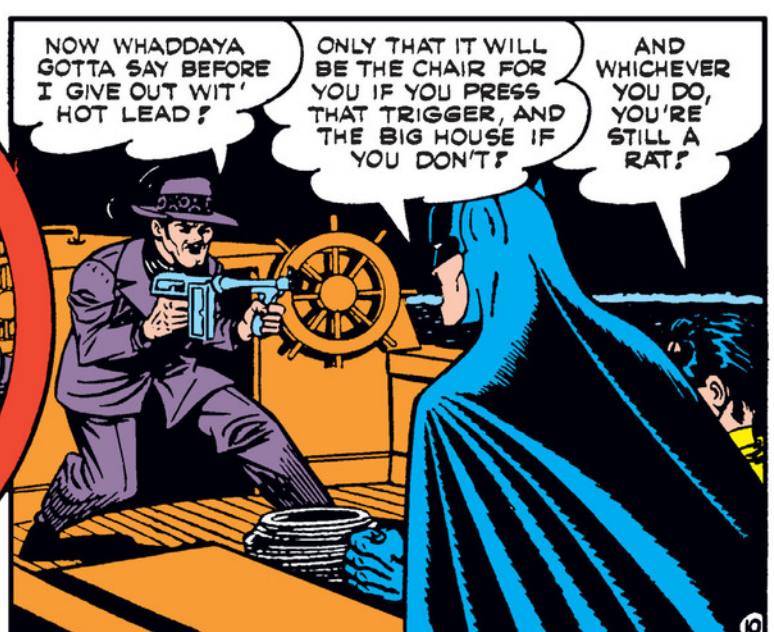
I'LL FIX 'EM!

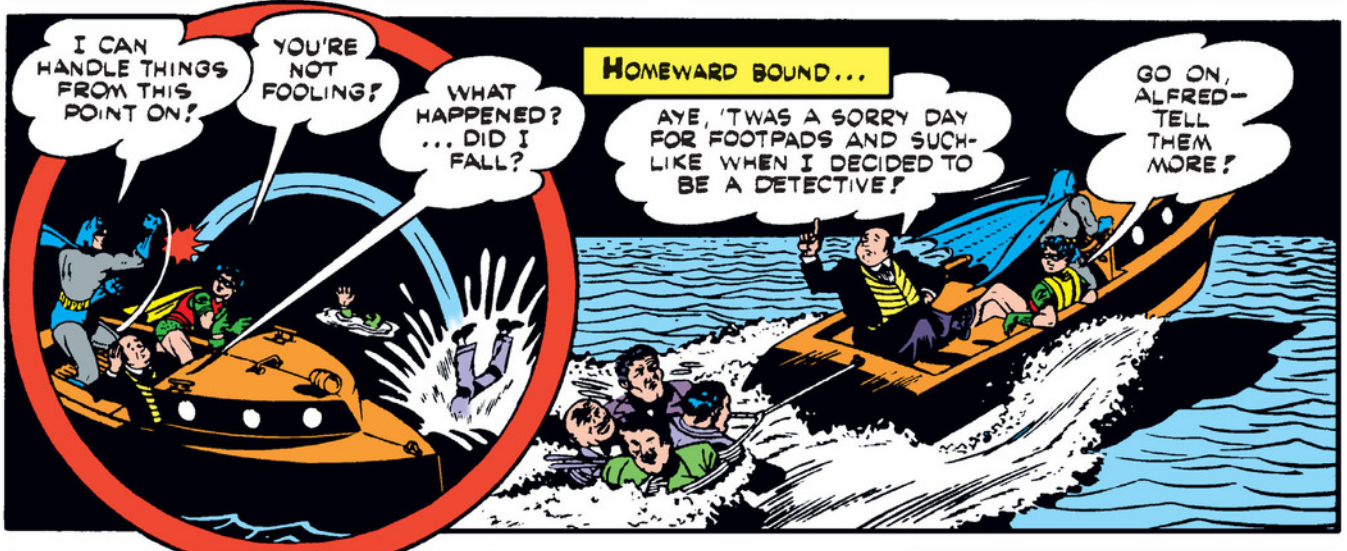
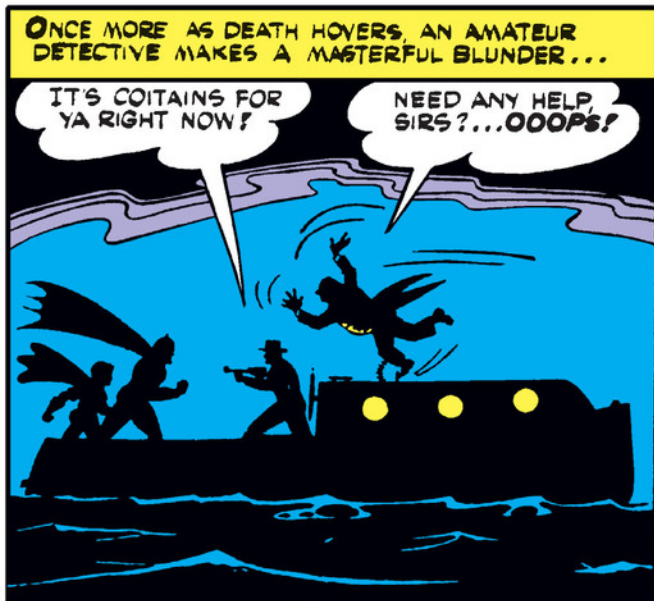


NOW WHADDAYA GOTTA SAY BEFORE I GIVE OUT WIT' HOT LEAD?

ONLY THAT IT WILL BE THE CHAIR FOR YOU IF YOU PRESS THAT TRIGGER, AND THE BIG HOUSE IF YOU DON'T!

AND WHICHEVER YOU DO, YOU'RE STILL A RAT!







No. 83

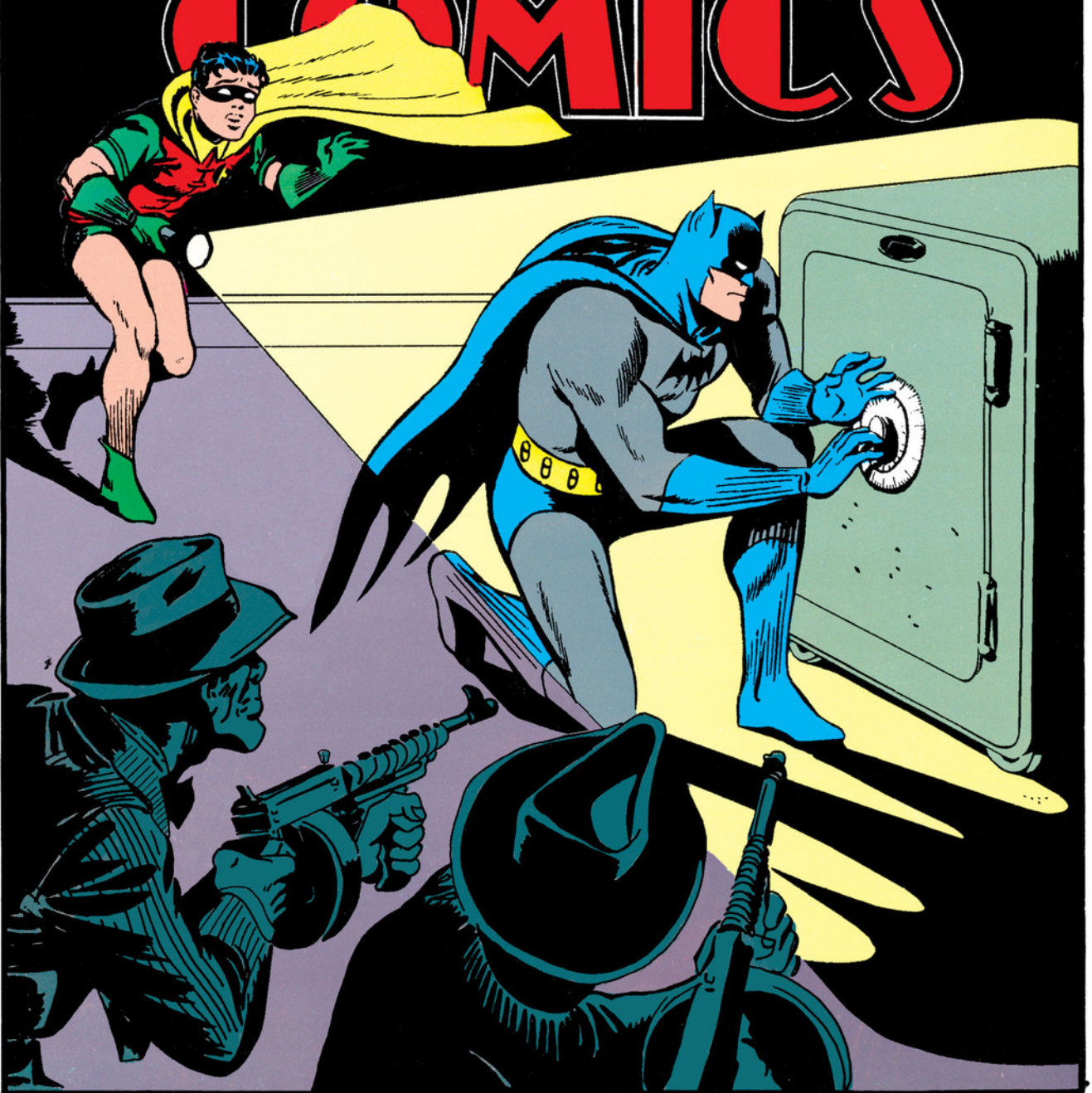
JAN...



THE BATMAN

Detective COMICS

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

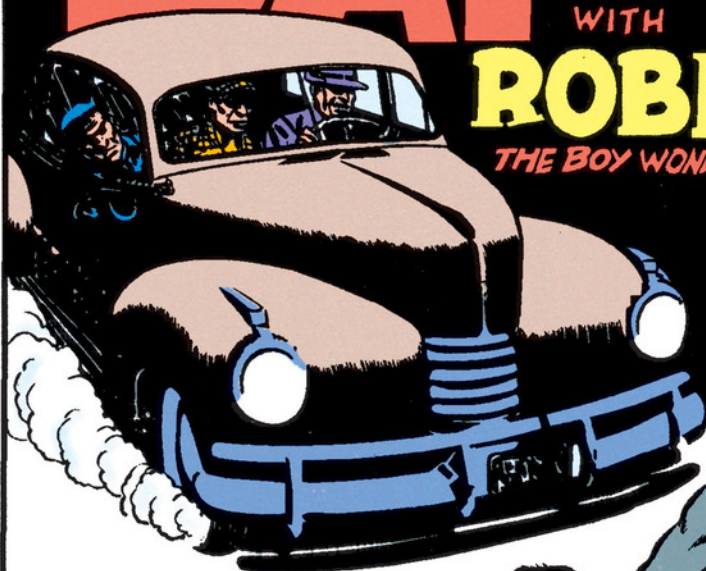


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

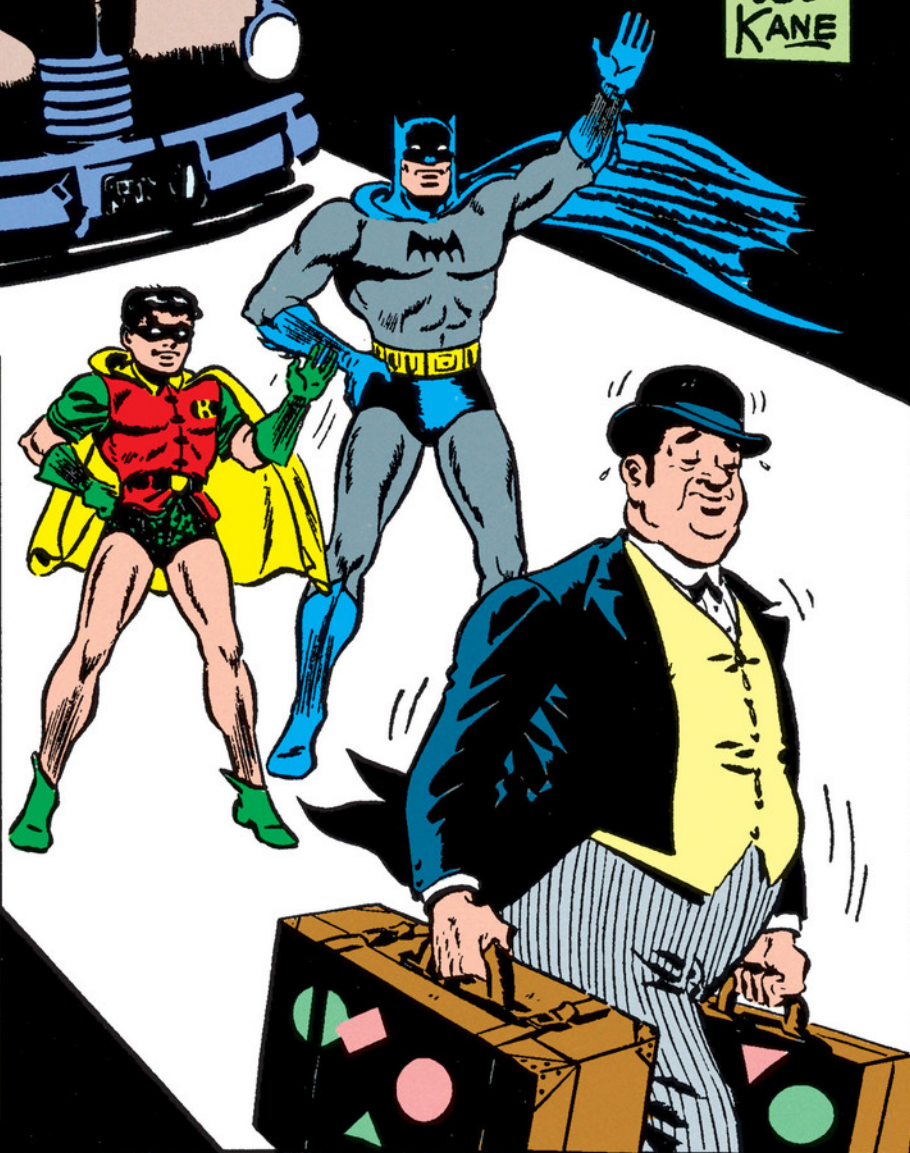
THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE



ACCIDENTS HAPPEN EVERYWHERE---BUT SELDOM DO THEY PRODUCE SUCH AMAZING AFTER-EFFECTS AS YOU WILL READ ABOUT IN THIS STARTLING STORY! FOR RICH MEN ROB THEMSELVES TO SAVE THIEVES THE TROUBLE---AND EVEN THE MIGHTY **BATMAN** OBLIGES GANGSTERS BY TURNING FROM HIS CRIME-SMASHING CRUSADE TO CRACK A SAFE! AND AS FOR ALFRED, BUTLER EXTRAORDINARY TO THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**---YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE WHAT HE GOES THROUGH TILL YOU'VE SEEN FOR YOURSELF THE FANTASTIC THINGS THAT OCCUR IN GOTHAM CITY---

"ACCIDENTALLY...PURPOSE!"



A MINOR MYSTERY ENGAGES THE ATTENTION OF BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON...

BY THE WAY, WHERE'S ALFRED? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR HOURS!

COME TO
THINK OF IT,
NEITHER
HAVE I!

HE'S BEEN ACTING MIGHTY STRANGE LATELY.. I'LL SEE IF HE'S IN THE KITCHEN!

I'LL TRY HIS ROOM UPSTAIRS!

NOT A
SIGN
OF HIM

HE ISN'T ON THIS FLOOR EITHER--- AND HE WOULDN'T ORDINARILY LEAVE THE HOUSE WITHOUT SAYING SOMETHING!

SUDDENLY... ZZZINGGGGGGG...!

THE ALARM
FROM THE
BAT CAVE!
SOMEONE
MUST BE
DOWN
THERE!

LET'S GO!

NO ONE HERE
OR IN THE LAB...
I'LL TRY THE
GYM!

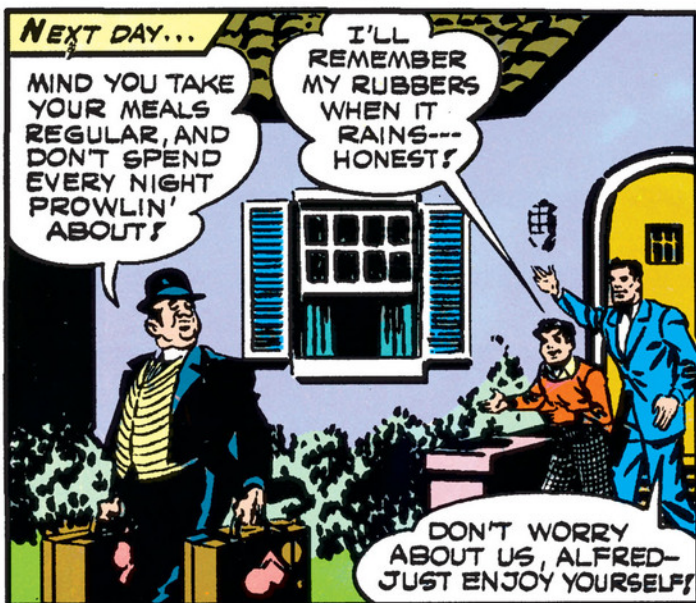
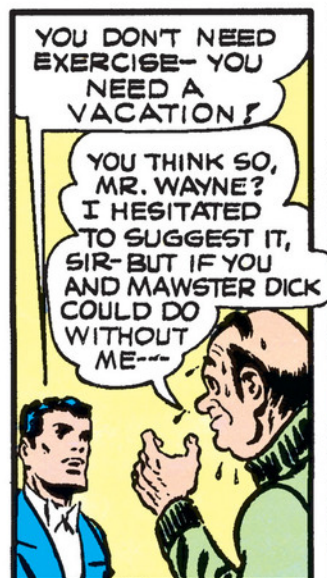
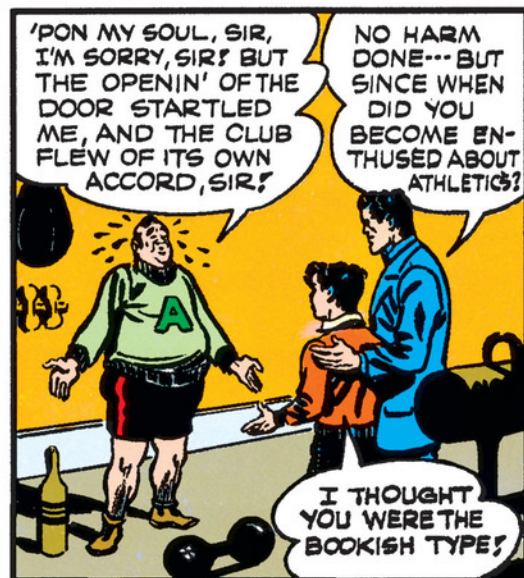
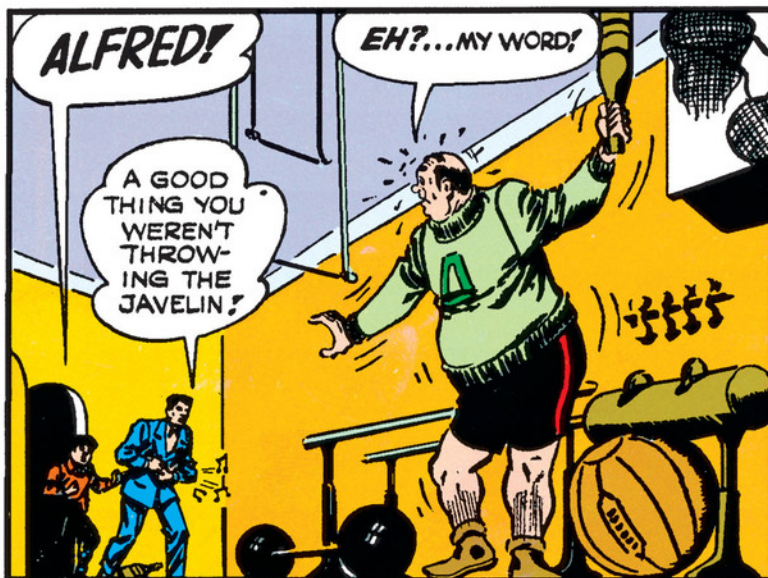
WAIT
FOR
ME!

A SECRET STAIRWAY LEADS TO THE BAT CAVE, SUBTERRANEAN SHELTER FOR THE BATMOBILE AND THE BATPLANE, A CRIMINOLOGICAL LABORATORY, AND OTHER CRIME-FIGHTING TOOLS OF THE BATMAN...

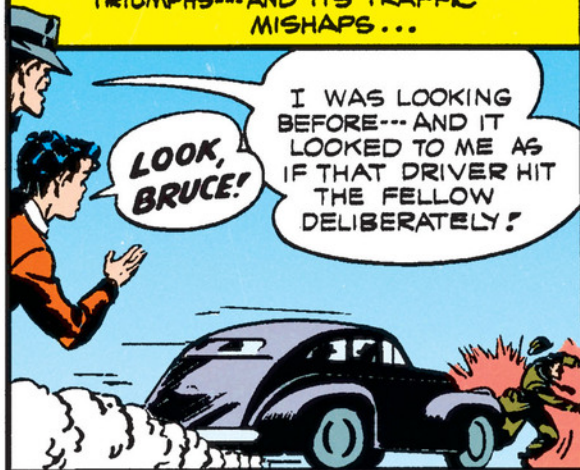
**QUIET, L
DICK!**

LOOK OUT!

ਪ੍ਰਭੂ!



IN ALFRED'S ABSENCE, LIFE IN GOTHAM CITY FOLLOWS ITS USUAL COURSE, WITH ITS TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS---AND ITS TRAFFIC MISHAPS...

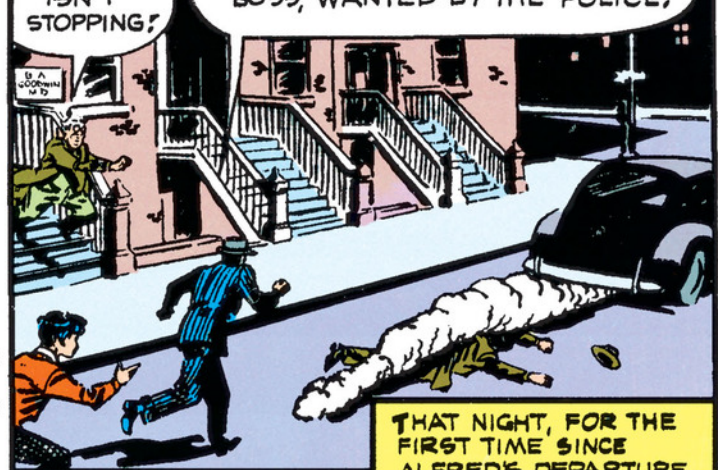


LOOK, BRUCE!

I WAS LOOKING BEFORE--- AND IT LOOKED TO ME AS IF THAT DRIVER HIT THE FELLOW DELIBERATELY!

NO WONDER! I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF HIM, AND HE'S BIFF BANNISTER, THE GANG BOSS, WANTED BY THE POLICE!


THE DRIVER ISN'T STOPPING!



THAT NIGHT, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE ALFRED'S DEPARTURE, TWO AWESOME FIGURES FLIT THROUGH THE SHADOWS!

TAKE HIM TO MY OFFICE! I'M DR. GOODWIN, AND I SAW IT FROM MY WINDOW!

A GOOD THING YOU WERE HANDY, DOCTOR! HE'S LIVING, BUT HE MAY BE BADLY HURT!



I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED HIM EARLIER... HE'S HENRY CORLISS, OWNER OF A BIG JEWELRY STORE!

INDEED?... FORTUNATELY, HE ISN'T BADLY INJURED ---MERELY A SLIGHT CONCUSSION...



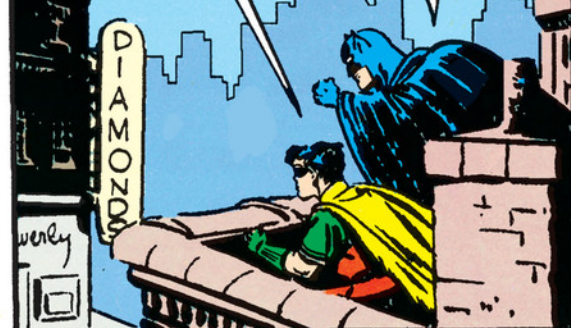
IT SURE IS GOOD TO BE LOOKING FOR ACTION AGAIN, BATMAN--- BUT WHAT'S THE OCCASION?

YOU'LL SEE!



WHY, IT'S THE JEWELRY STORE OWNED BY CORLISS, THE MAN WHO WAS HIT BY THAT CAR!

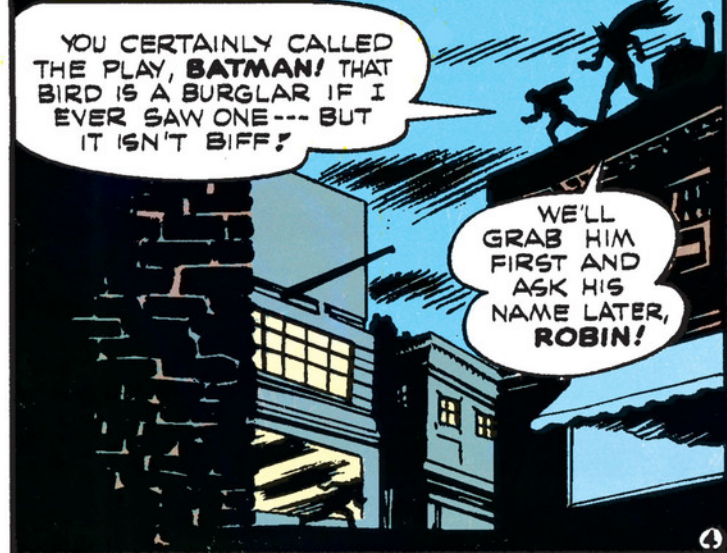
RIGHT! WHEN A CROOK DELIBERATELY RUNS DOWN A MAN WORTH ROBBING, IT'S SOMETHING TO LOOK INTO!

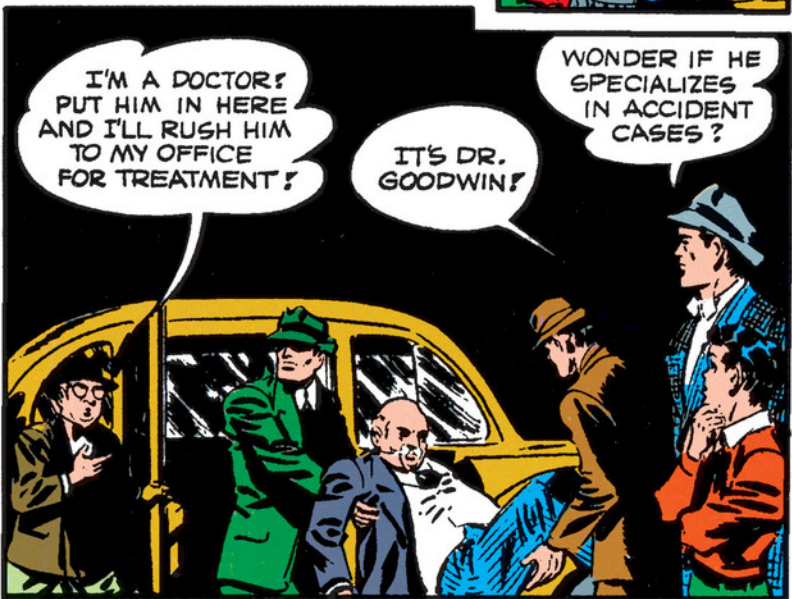
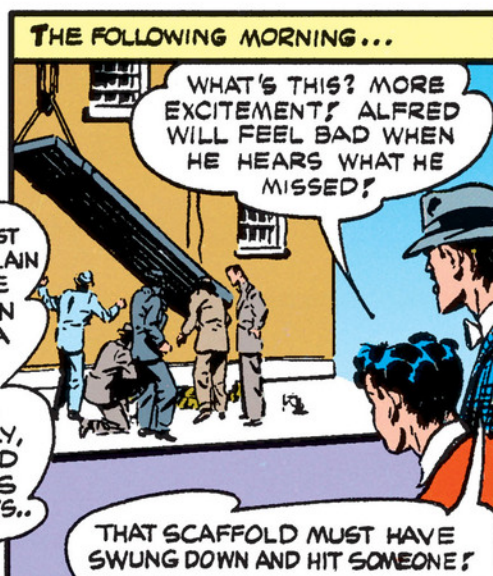
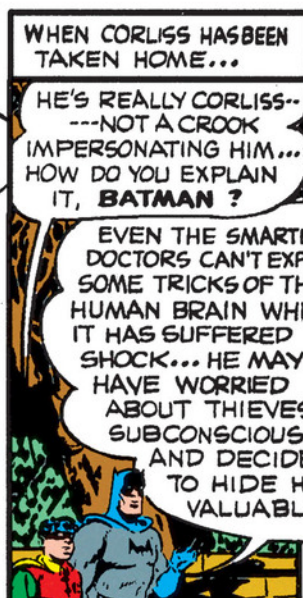
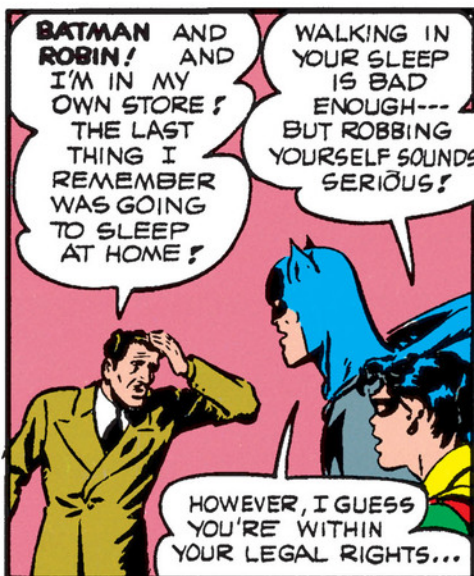
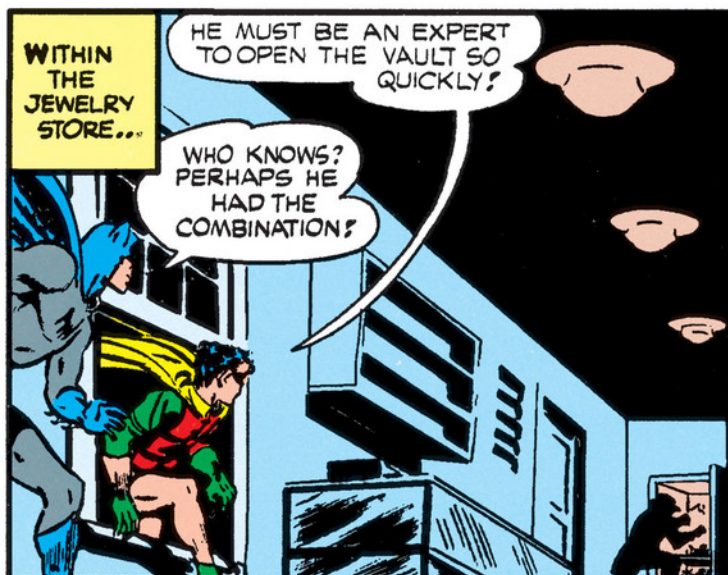


PRESENTLY...

YOU CERTAINLY CALLED THE PLAY, BATMAN! THAT BIRD IS A BURGLAR IF I EVER SAW ONE--- BUT IT ISN'T BIFF!

WE'LL GRAB HIM FIRST AND ASK HIS NAME LATER, ROBIN!





ONCE AGAIN DARKNESS BRINGS FORTH THE UNDERWORLD'S MOST RELENTLESS FOES...

YOU THINK KLING MAY WALK IN HIS SLEEP, TOO,

SINCE HIS ACCIDENT WAS APPARENTLY PLANNED AS DELIBERATELY AS CORLISS, IT'S WORTH CHECKING UP ON!

THIS IS THE OFFICE OF KLING & HUGGINS --- AND IN WE GO!

RIGHT WITH YOU!

WOULDN'T IT BE FUNNY IF WE WAITED ALL NIGHT AND NOTHING HAPPENED?

SH-H-H-H! SOMEONE'S AT THE DOOR --- AND BY THE SHAPE OF HIS SHADOW, I'D SAY IT WAS KLING!

NOW?

NO!

BUT THAT STUFF HE TOOK BELONGS TO HIS PARTNER AS WELL AS HIM! ARE WE GOING TO LET HIM GET AWAY WITH IT?

ONLY 'TIL WE SEE WHERE HE TAKES IT!

AT A RAMSHACKLE HOUSE IN THE SLUMS...

WONDER WHAT KIND OF PLACE THAT IS?

OH, IT'S YOU, KLING! C'MON IN!

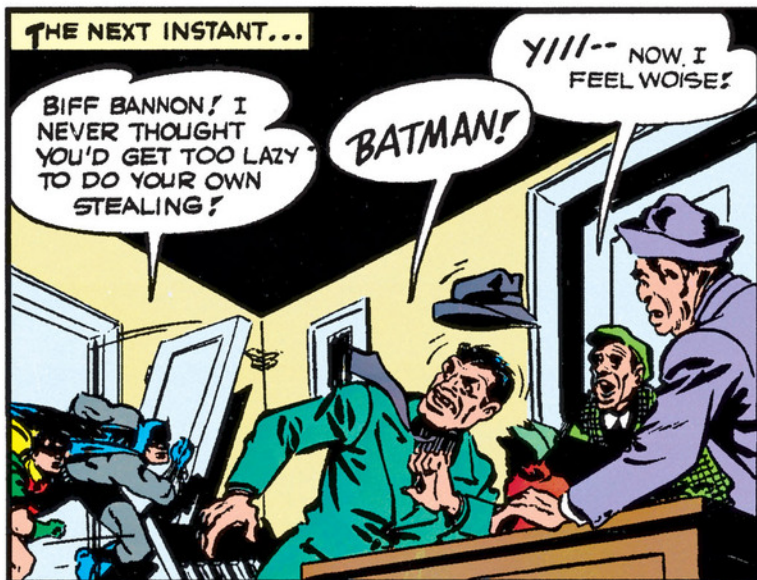
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF IT WAS THE HIDEOUT OF BIFF BANNON AND HIS MOB!

WHAT A SETUP! DA CHUMPS ROB DEMSELVES AN' BRING US DA SWAG!

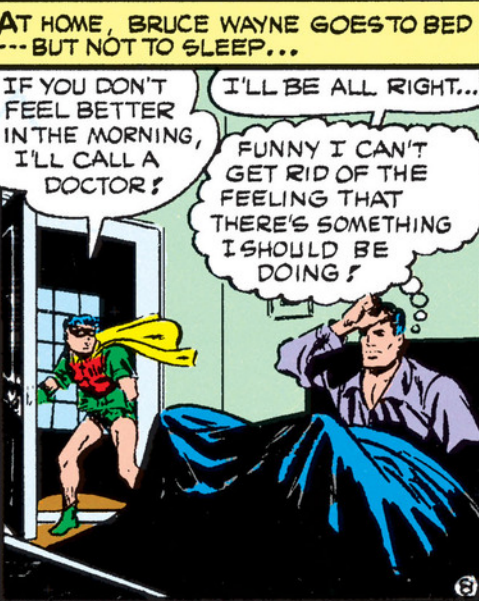
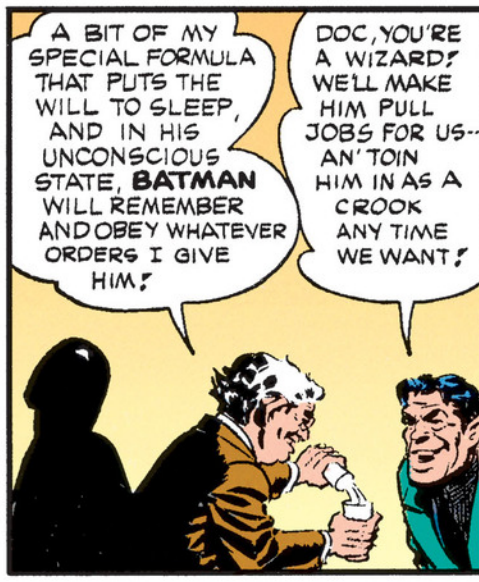
INSIDE...

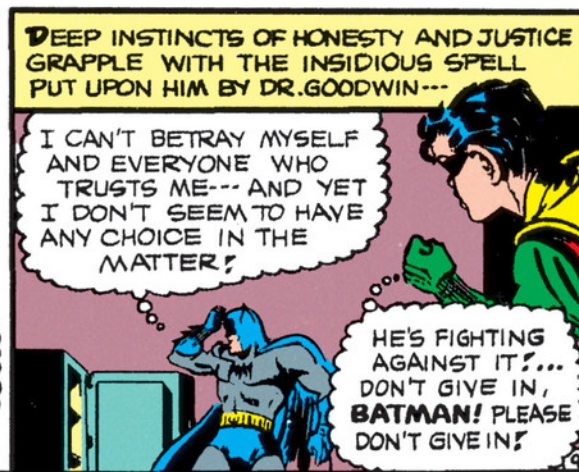
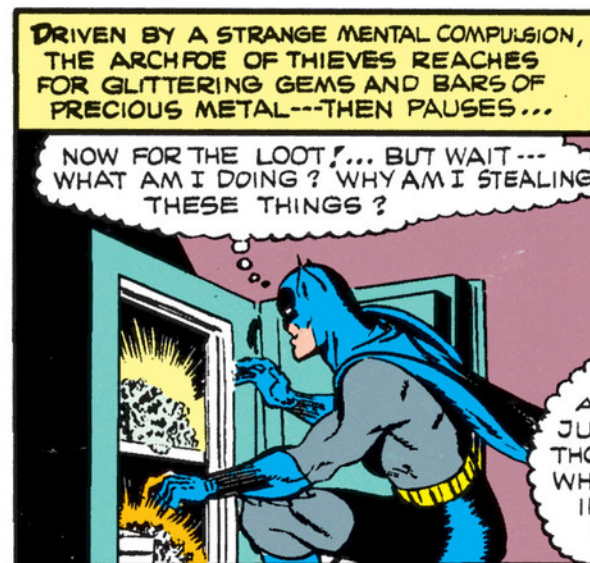
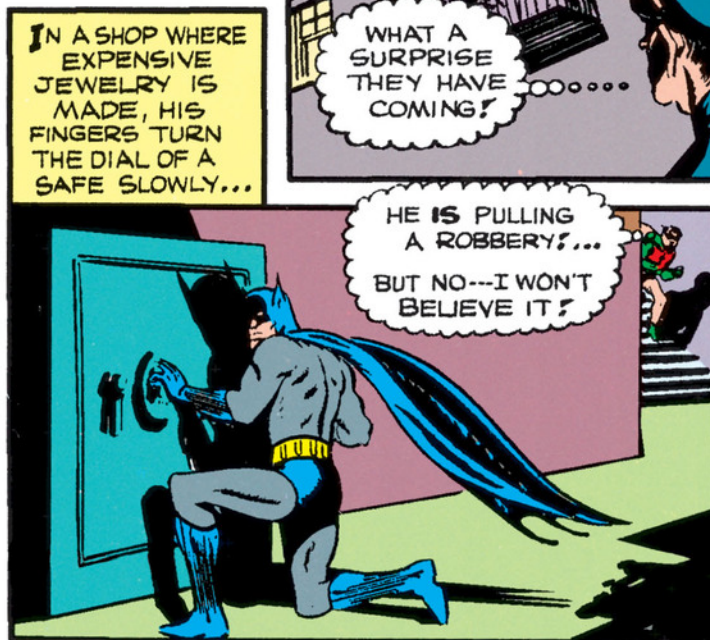
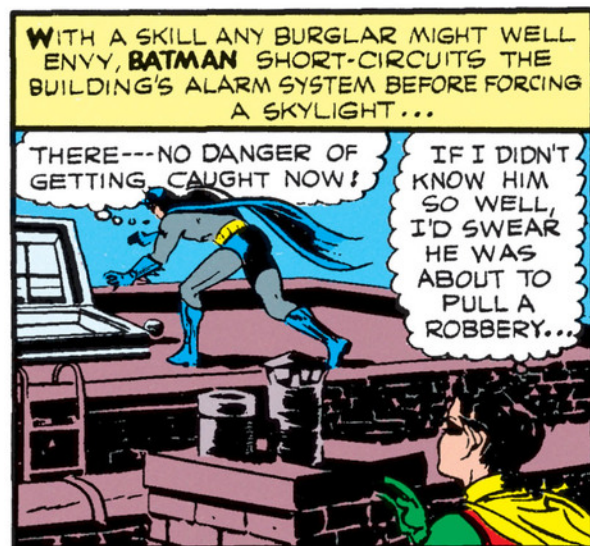
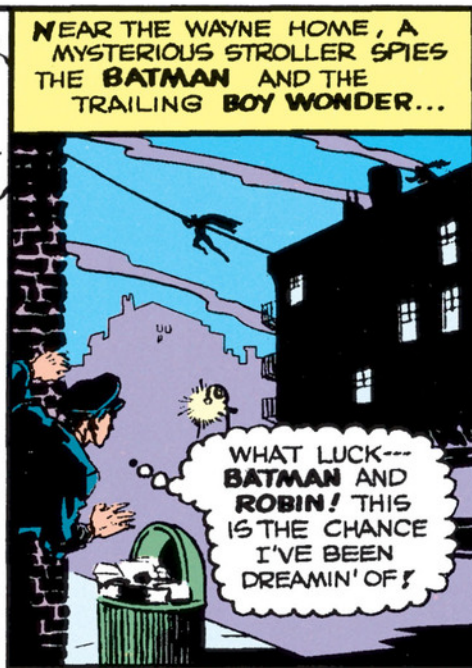
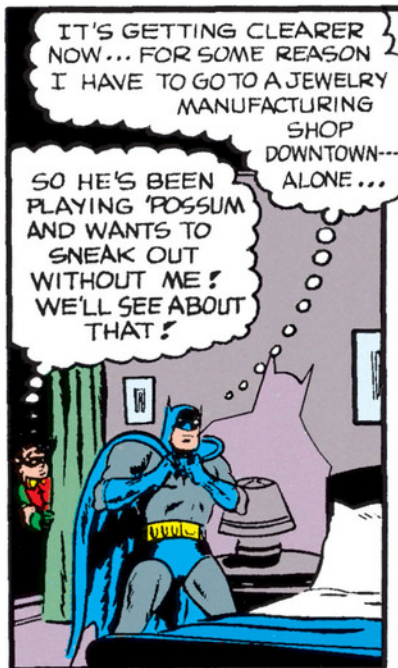
AN' DA DOC FIXES IT SO DEY CONFESS TO DA COPS, BUT CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT DEY DONE WIT' DA STUFF!

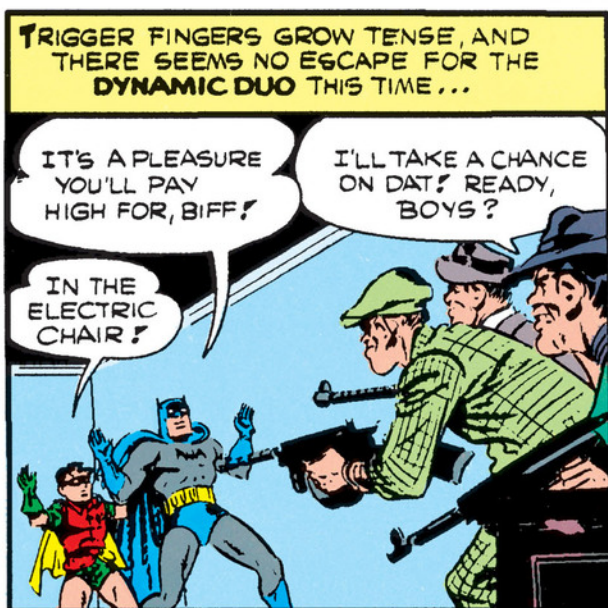
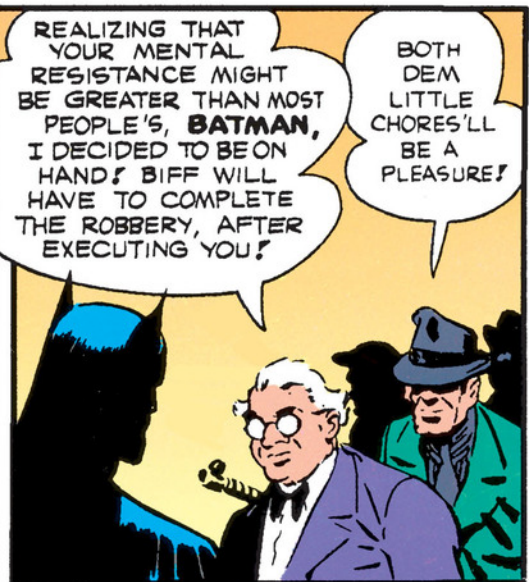
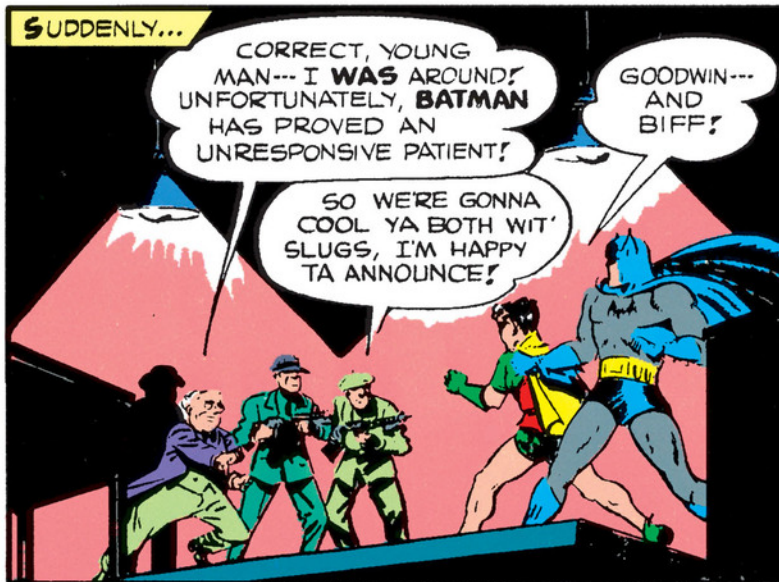
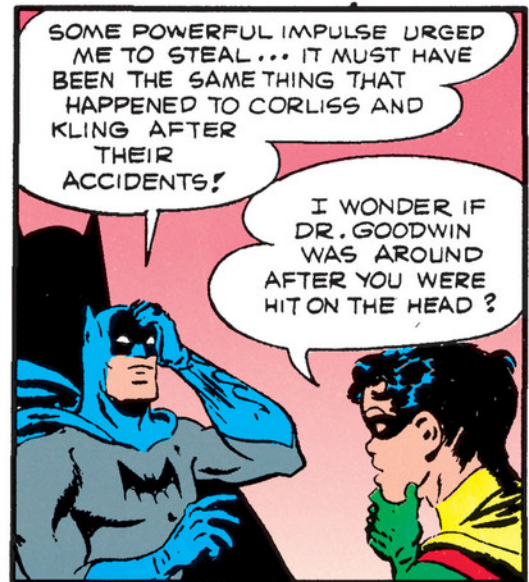
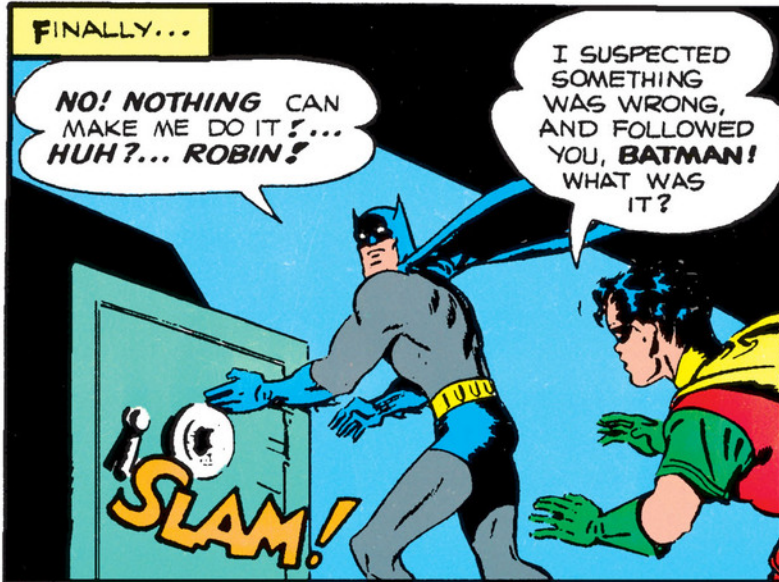
YEAH--- BUT I AIN'T FELT RIGHT SINCE **BATMAN** SPOILED TINGS WIT' CORLISS!

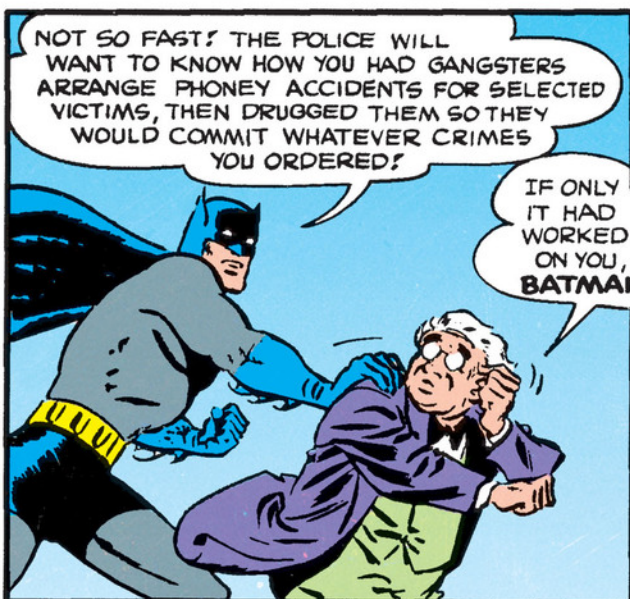
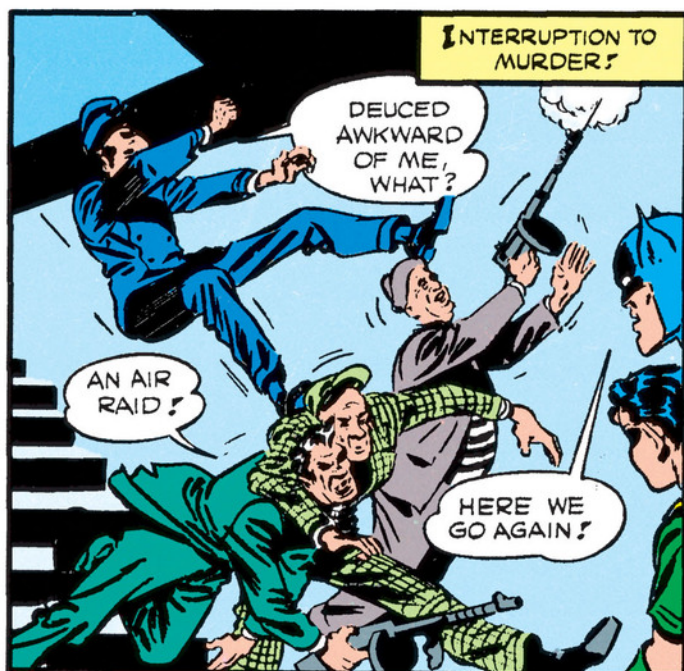


LEFT ALONE WITH THE CRIMINALS, **BATMAN** IS UNAWARE OF ANOTHER FIGURE THAT ENTERS THE ROOM STEALTHILY...











BATMAN
No.21

FEB...MAR.



BATMAN

**BATMAN & ROBIN
WHOO IT UP
IN FOUR WHIRLWIND
ACTION STORIES!**



BATMAN

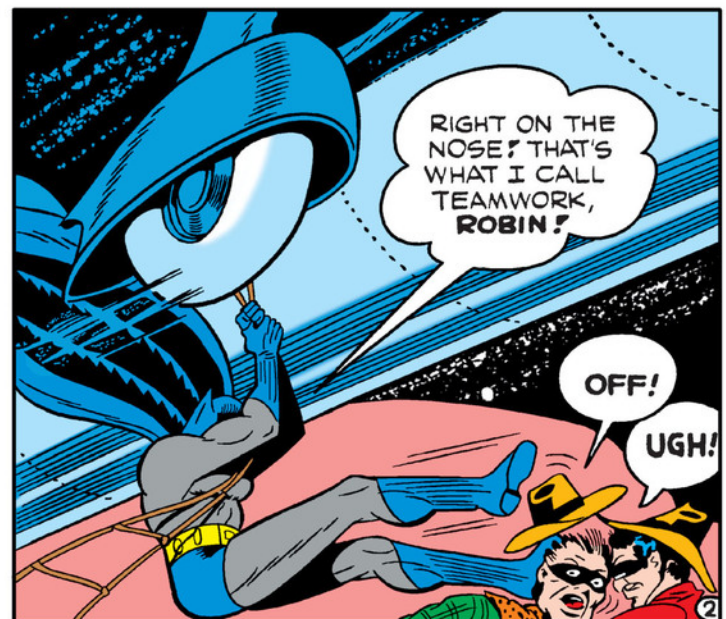
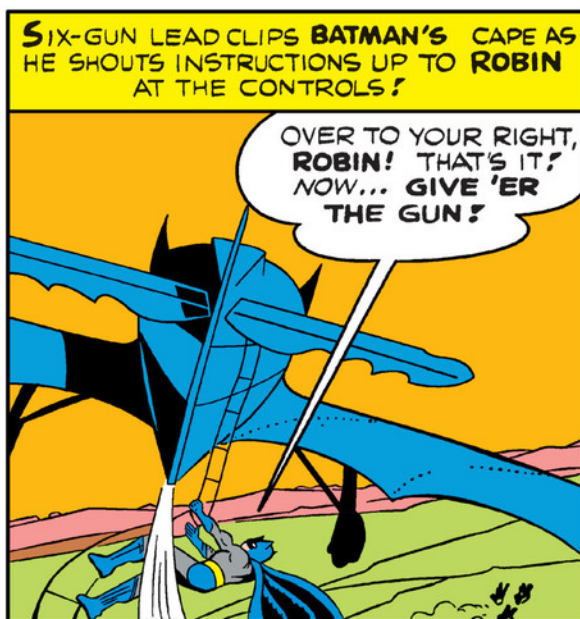
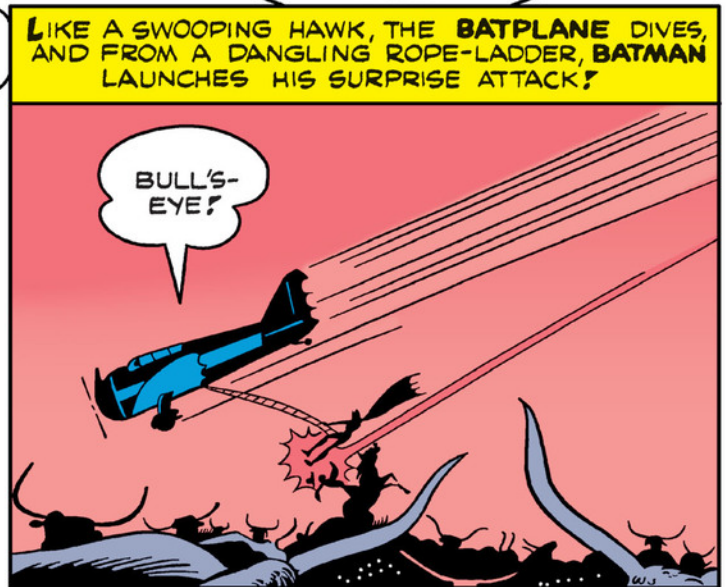
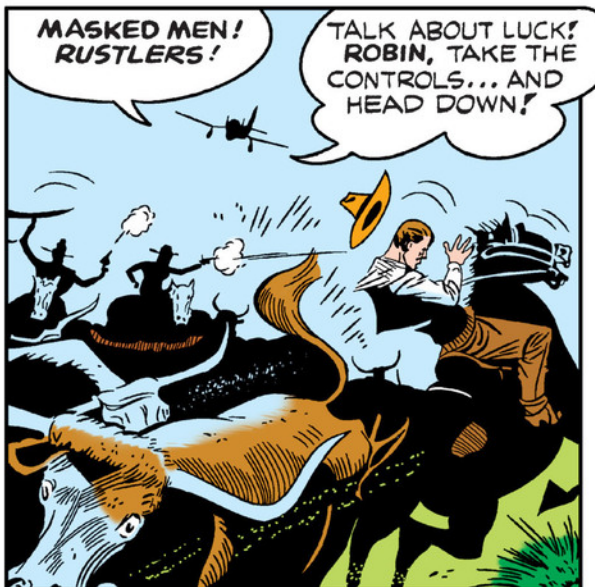
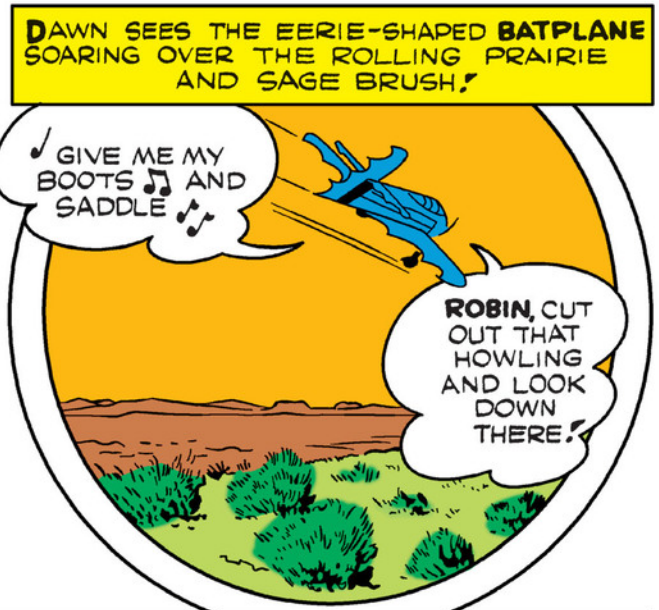
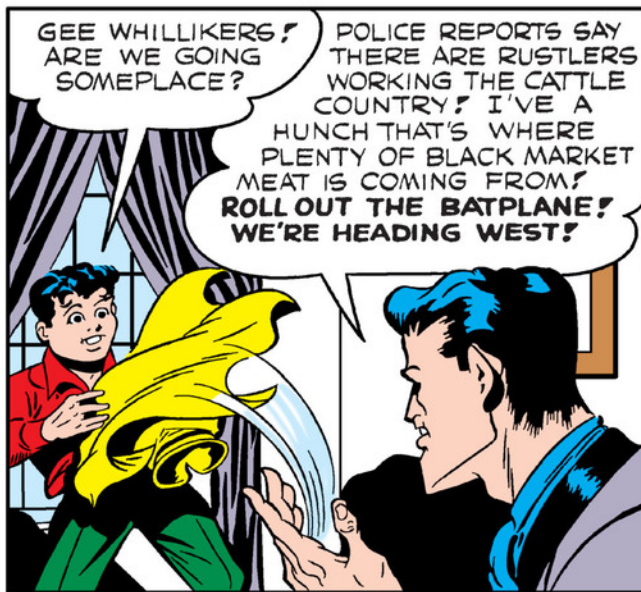
WITH

ROBIN

THE BOY WONDER -

THE ENEMY
SPY? SABOTEUR? EVIL
THEY ARE, INDEED! BUT
WHAT OF THE DOMESTIC LEECH,
THE HOME-GROWN GRASPER OF
GAIN? CAN THERE BE ANYONE MORE
TRAITOROUS, MORE CONTEMPTIBLE
THAN THOSE WHO SEEK TO CASH IN ON
THE HARDSHIPS OF WAR?
THERE IS SUCH A GROUP IN THIS
COUNTRY: WE CALL IT--THE BLACK
MARKET!
THESE ARE THE CRIMINALS WHO TAKE
BATMAN AND ROBIN FROM THE EASTERN
BIG TOWN TO THE WESTERN PRAIRIE TO
CORRAL... "THE
STREAMLINED RUSTLERS!"







C'MON, GANG!
MAKE TRACKS
-- PRONTO!

THEY WON'T GET
FAR FROM THE
BATPLANE!
I'LL...

NO, **ROBIN!**
WE MAY NEED
THE PLANE
TO SPEED
THESE WOUNDED
COWHANDS TO
A HOSPITAL!



**BUT, AS THE
BATMAN BENDS
OVER A FALLEN
COWBOY-- A GUN
MUZZLE BORES
INTO HIS BACK!**

OKAY, MISTER
MASKED RUSTLER!
GIT YORE HANDS
UP AFORE
I BLOW A
HOLE THRU
YORE
CARCASS!



HOLD ON,
MR. KRAFT!
THIS FELLOW
AIN'T LIKELY TO
TRY TO RUSTLE
YORE CATTLE!
HOWDY, **BATMAN!**
I'M SHERIFF
COLT!

BATMAN?!!

HELLO,
SHERIFF!
... MR.
KRAFT!
WELL...
LOOKS LIKE
OPEN SEASON
FOR
RUSTLERS!



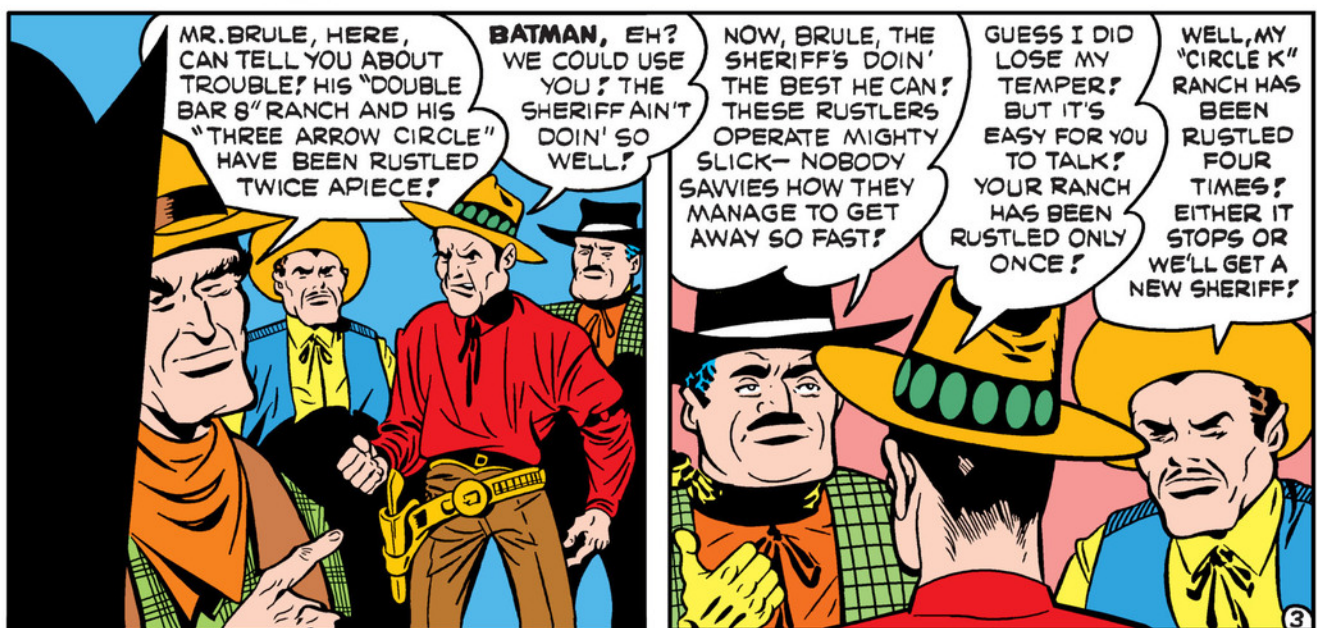
SINCE RATIONING,
RUSTLERS HAVE
BEEN POPPIN' OUTA
GOPHER HOLES
'ROUND THIS COUNTY!
BLACK MARKET BEEF
FETCHES A FANCY
PRICE THESE
DAYS!

WHO'S
THE
STRANGER,
SHERIFF?

MEET MR. COTTER,
BATMAN! HE OWNS
THE "CO" RANCH; HE'S
ONE OF THE LUCKY
ONES - HAD HIS
CATTLE RUSTLED
ONLY ONCE
SO FAR!

YOU'RE A
LONG WAY
FROM
HOME,
BATMAN!

YOU'LL ALWAYS
FIND ME
AROUND WHERE
THERE'S TROUBLE,
MR. COTTER!



MR. BRULE, HERE,
CAN TELL YOU ABOUT
TROUBLE! HIS "DOUBLE
BAR 8" RANCH AND HIS
"THREE ARROW CIRCLE"
HAVE BEEN RUSTLED
TWICE APIECE!

BATMAN, EH?
WE COULD USE
YOU! THE
SHERIFF AIN'T
DOIN' SO
WELL!

NOW, BRULE, THE
SHERIFF'S DOIN'
THE BEST HE CAN!
THESE RUSTLERS
OPERATE MIGHTY
SLICK- NOBODY
SAVVIES HOW THEY
MANAGE TO GET
AWAY SO FAST!


GUESS I DID
LOSE MY
TEMPER!
BUT IT'S
EASY FOR YOU
TO TALK!
YOUR RANCH
HAS BEEN
RUSTLED ONLY
ONCE!

WELL, MY
"CIRCLE K"
RANCH HAS
BEEN
RUSTLED
FOUR
TIMES!
EITHER IT
STOPS OR
WE'LL GET A
NEW SHERIFF!

LATER... WHEN THE RANCHERS LEAVE...

Y'SEE, **BATMAN**, THEIR COMBINED RANCHES COMPRISE THE WHOLE COUNTY UNDER MY JURISDICTION! THE DRAFT TOOK MOST O' MY DEPUTIES, AND WITH ONLY A FEW MEN, IT'S NIGH IMPOSSIBLE TO PATROL THIS BIG AREA PROPERLY!


I CAN SEE THAT!



STILL LATER... AS BATMAN AND ROBIN LEAVE...

ROBIN, I'M WONDERING WHY COTTER WAS SO LUCKY AS TO HAVE HIS RANCH RUSTLED ONLY ONCE!


YES... HE SEEMS TOO INNOCENT FOR ME! VERY OFTEN, WHEN WE FIND THE GUILTY PERSON IN A MYSTERY, HE TURNS OUT TO BE A MAN LIKE COTTER!



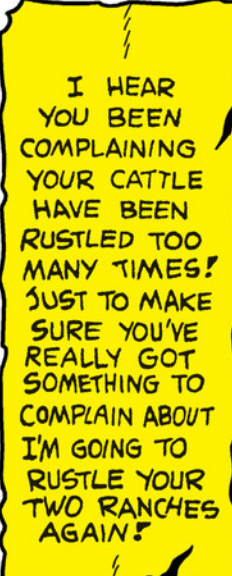
THE NEXT MORNING... AS BATMAN VISITS WITH THE SHERIFF...

MR. BRULE! WHAT'S UP? YOU LOOK AS JUMPY AS A JACKRABBIT!

HERE! READ THIS NOTE I JUST FOUND IN MY MAIL!



I HEAR YOU BEEN COMPLAINING YOUR CATTLE HAVE BEEN RUSTLED TOO MANY TIMES! JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU'VE REALLY GOT SOMETHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT I'M GOING TO RUSTLE YOUR TWO RANCHES AGAIN!



BATMAN, HELP ME! STAY ON MY RANCH... DISGUISE YOURSELF... DO ANYTHING... BUT STOP THEM RUSTLERS!

"DISGUISE"... HMM-MM... THAT'S AN IDEA!


SHORE! THAT WAY YOU COULD FOLLOW 'EM TO THEIR HIDEOUT! THEN ME AND M' DEPUTIES WOULD CLOSE IN! BUT WE GOTTA KEEP YORE DISGUISE A SECRET!



NIGHTFALL... AND ON BRULE'S THREE ARROW CIRCLE RANCH, COWHANDS RELAX UNDER THE LIGHT OF A FULL WESTERN MOON...

HOW ABOUT A TUNE ON YORE BANJO, BOSS? ME'N THE BOYS FEEL LIKE KEEYODELIN' TONIGHT!

SURE!




AND AS BRULE PLINKS THE STRINGS OF HIS BANJO, TWO INVITED GUESTS WATCH WITH INTEREST - BATMAN AND ROBIN IN DISGUISE!

HOME... HOME ON THE RANGE..

GOSH, IT'S SO PEACEFUL YOU COULD ALMOST FORGET THIS RUSTLING BUSINESS!

WELL, DON'T FORGET IT! THE CHIEF RUSTLER MAY BE RIGHT HERE AMONG US THIS VERY MINUTE!




AND LURKING ON THE FRINGE OF THE CROWD ARE TWO OTHER INVITED GUESTS... COTTER AND KRAFT!

PINK A PANK
PINK A PANK
PANK

I WONDER IF BRULE IS PLAYING TO KEEP UP HIS COURAGE?

HE'LL NEED PLENTY OF IT BEFORE THE NIGHT'S OVER! MAYBE HE'LL BE PLAYING A DIFFERENT TUNE TOMORROW!



LATER... WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN RETURN TO THEIR ROOM, THEY FIND A NOTE UNDER THEIR DOOR?



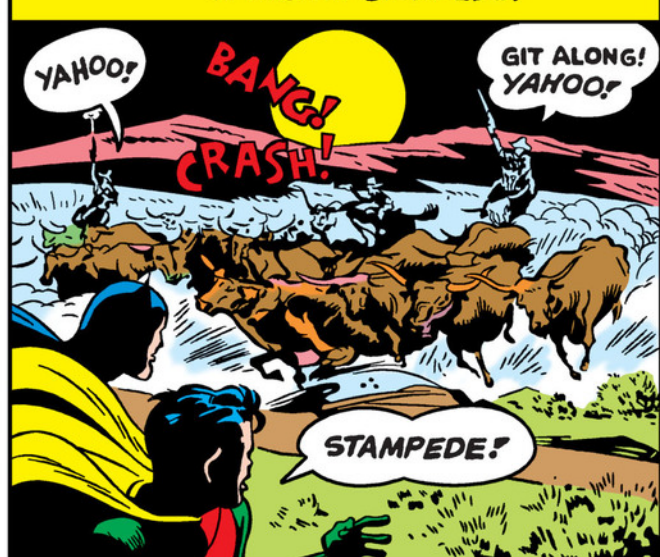
SAY, HOW COULD THIS "FRIEND" KNOW WE'RE BATMAN AND ROBIN? THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A SECRET?



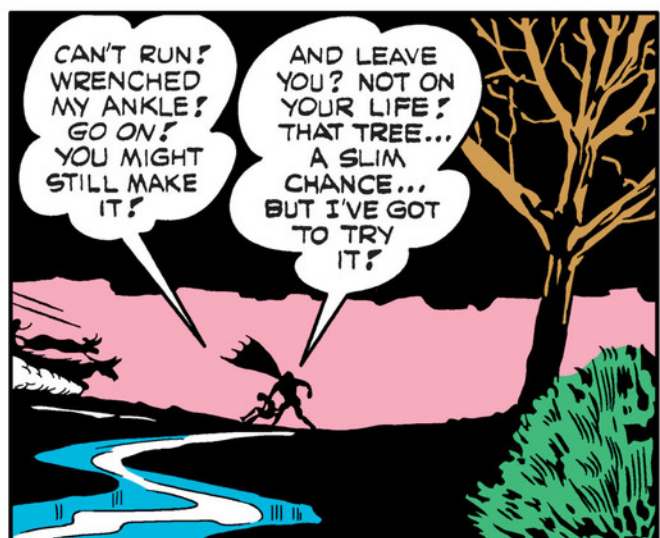
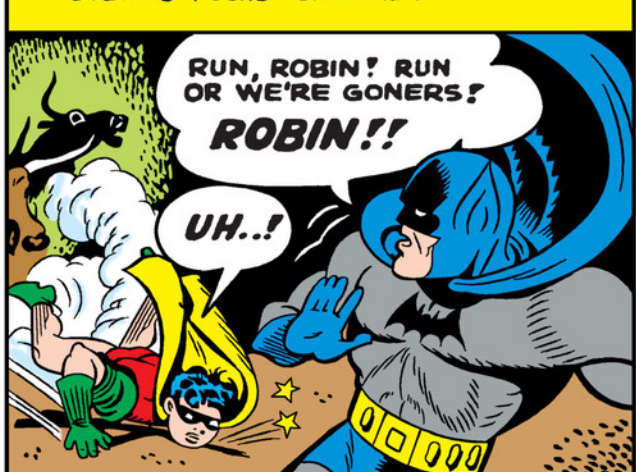
ELEVEN O'CLOCK SHARP! THE FORKED STREAM WHERE STEERS GRAZE IN QUIET COMPLACENCY...



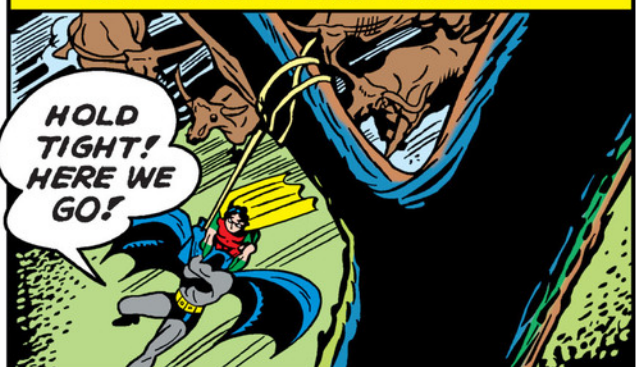
SUDDENLY!! CRASHING SHOTS AND YELLS SPLIT THE NIGHT! LIKE A RELEASED AVALANCHE THE PANIC-CRAZED CATTLE THUNDER INTO A MIGHTY STAMPEDE!



KNIFE-EDGED HOOF GRIND EARTH TO POWDER, CHOP GRASS TO SHREDS... AS THE IRRESISTIBLE TIDE OF MADDENED STEERS POUND FORWARD!



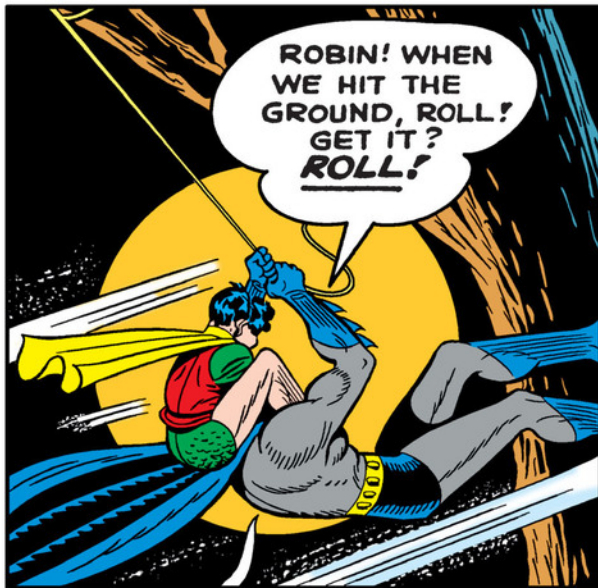
A QUICK FLIP AND THE BATMAN'S STEEL-SILK ROPE WHISTLES THROUGH THE AIR TO WHIP 'ROUND A STOUT BRANCH!



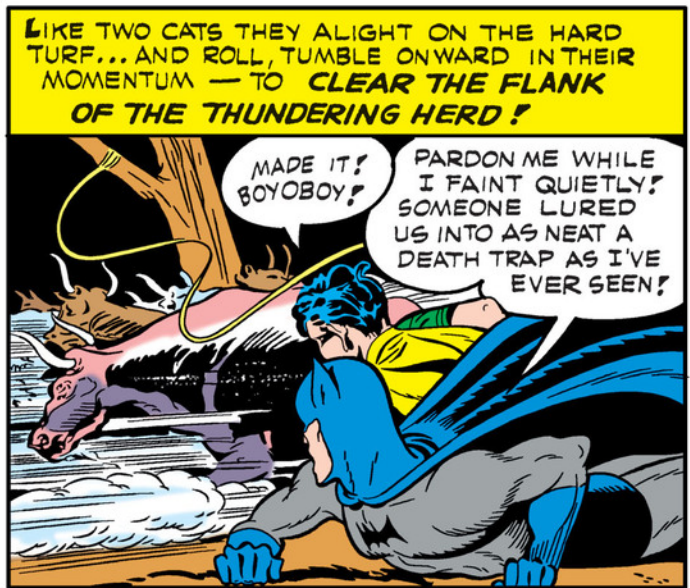
AND BEFORE THE PRONGED HORNS OF THE THUNDERING STEERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN CATAPULT FORWARD IN A RACE WITH MANGLING DOOM!

CAN THEY MAKE IT?

5

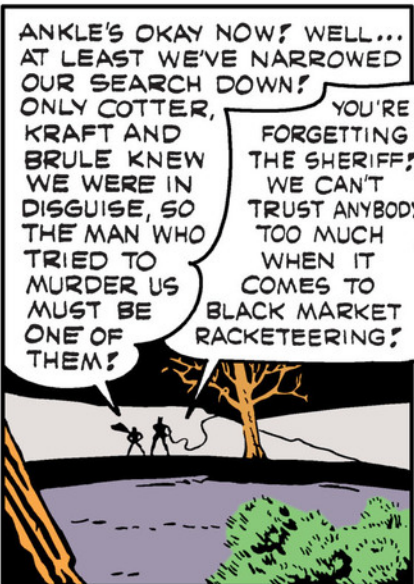


ROBIN! WHEN WE HIT THE GROUND, ROLL! GET IT? **ROLL!**



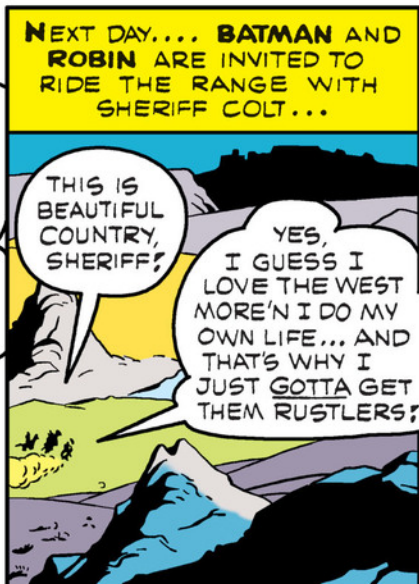
LIKE TWO CATS THEY ALIGHT ON THE HARD TURF... AND ROLL, TUMBLE ONWARD IN THEIR MOMENTUM — TO **CLEAR THE FLANK OF THE THUNDERING HERD!**

PARDON ME WHILE I FAINT QUIETLY! SOMEONE LURED US INTO AS NEAT A DEATH TRAP AS I'VE EVER SEEN!



ANKLE'S OKAY NOW! WELL... AT LEAST WE'VE NARROWED OUR SEARCH DOWN! ONLY COTTER, KRAFT AND BRULE KNEW WE WERE IN DISGUISE, SO THE MAN WHO TRIED TO MURDER US MUST BE ONE OF THEM!

YOU'RE FORGETTING THE SHERIFF! WE CAN'T TRUST ANYBODY TOO MUCH WHEN IT COMES TO BLACK MARKET RACKETEERING!



NEXT DAY.... BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE INVITED TO RIDE THE RANGE WITH SHERIFF COLT...

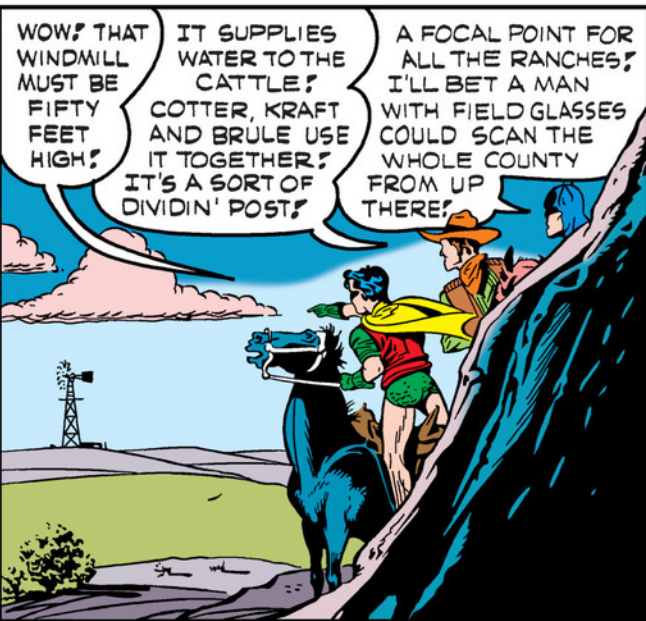
THIS IS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY, SHERIFF!

YES, I GUESS I LOVE THE WEST MORE'N I DO MY OWN LIFE... AND THAT'S WHY I JUST GOTTA GET THEM RUSTLERS!



OUR WESTERN BOYS ARE FIGHTIN' ON ALL FRONTS NOW... AND US AT HOME ARE BUYIN' WAR BONDS AND DOIN' DEFENSE WORK... BUT THESE BLACK MARKET RUSTLERS ARE GIVIN' THE WEST A BAD NAME! NOW Y'SEE WHY I GOTTA GET 'EM?

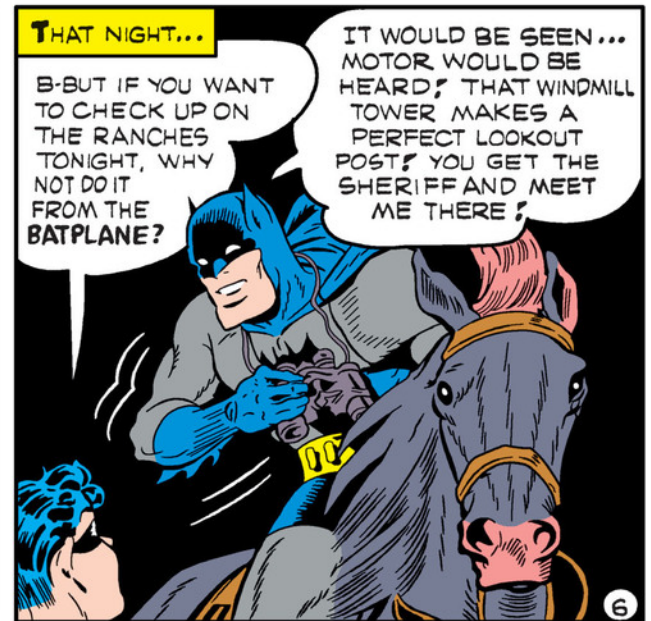
YES... I SEE!



WOW! THAT WINDMILL MUST BE FIFTY FEET HIGH!

IT SUPPLIES WATER TO THE CATTLE! COTTER, KRAFT AND BRULE USE IT TOGETHER! IT'S A SORT OF DIVIDIN' POST!

A FOCAL POINT FOR ALL THE RANCHES! I'LL BET A MAN WITH FIELD GLASSES COULD SCAN THE WHOLE COUNTY FROM UP THERE!

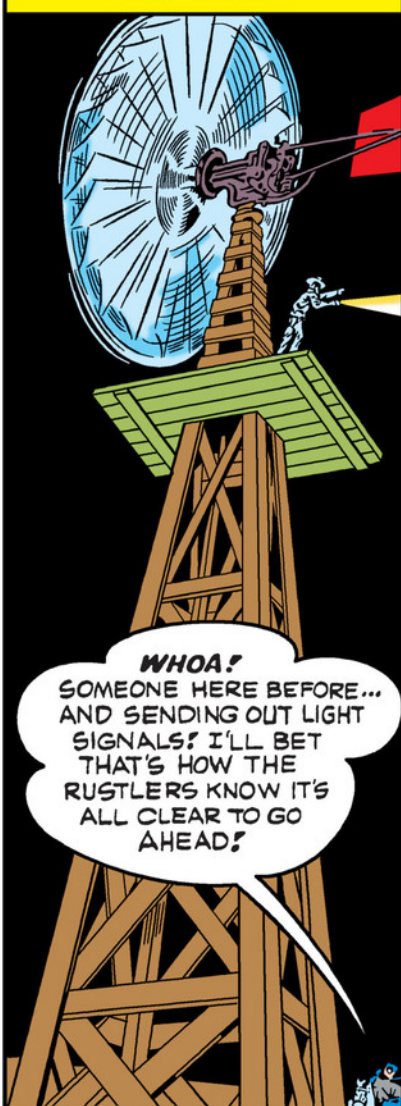


THAT NIGHT...

B-BUT IF YOU WANT TO CHECK UP ON THE RANCHES TONIGHT, WHY NOT DO IT FROM THE BATPLANE?

IT WOULD BE SEEN... MOTOR WOULD BE HEARD! THAT WINDMILL TOWER MAKES A PERFECT LOOKOUT POST! YOU GET THE SHERIFF AND MEET ME THERE!

BUT UPON NEARING THE WINDMILL, **BATMAN** RECEIVES A SURPRISE...



WHOA!
SOMEONE HERE BEFORE...
AND SENDING OUT LIGHT
SIGNALS? I'LL BET
THAT'S HOW THE
RUSTLERS KNOW IT'S
ALL CLEAR TO GO
AHEAD!

WITH THE STEALTH OF A MOUNTAIN CAT, **BATMAN** PADS SILENTLY TO THE TOWER AND STARTS TO CLIMB...



I HEARD
SOMETHING-
OOFF!

NOT
SOMETHING...
SOMEONE!



BUT THE RUSTLER IS A TOUGH ANTAGONIST!

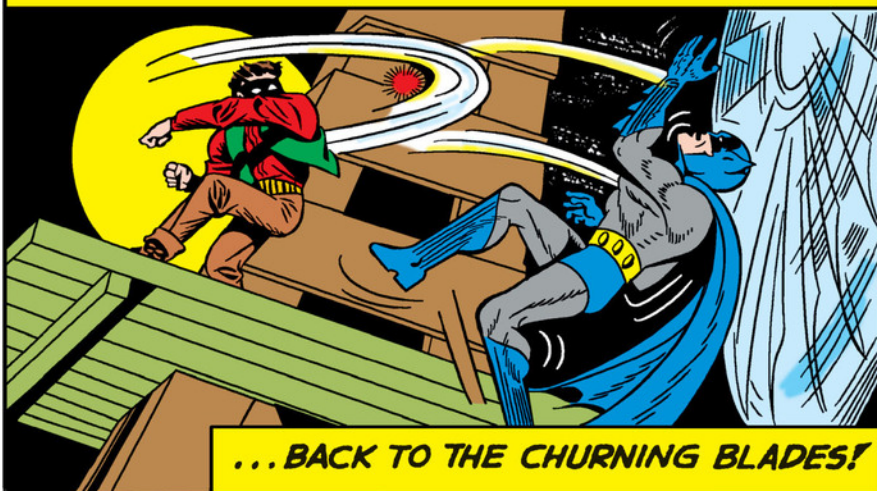


OHhh!

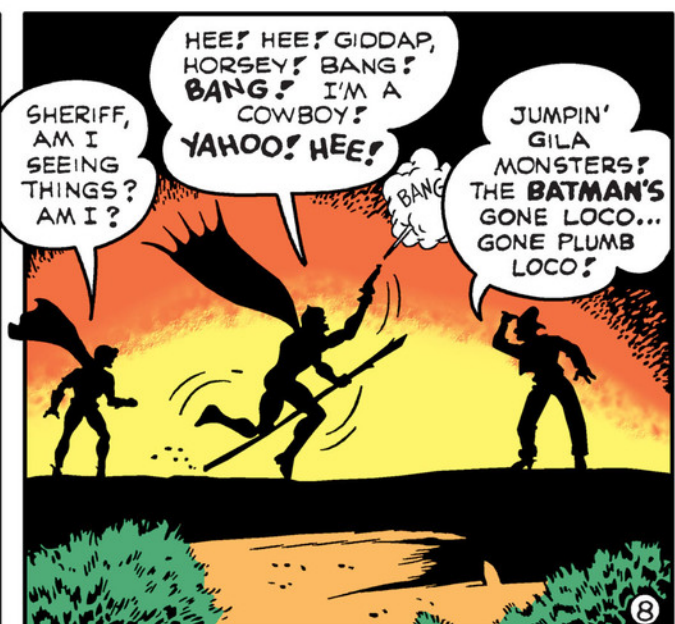
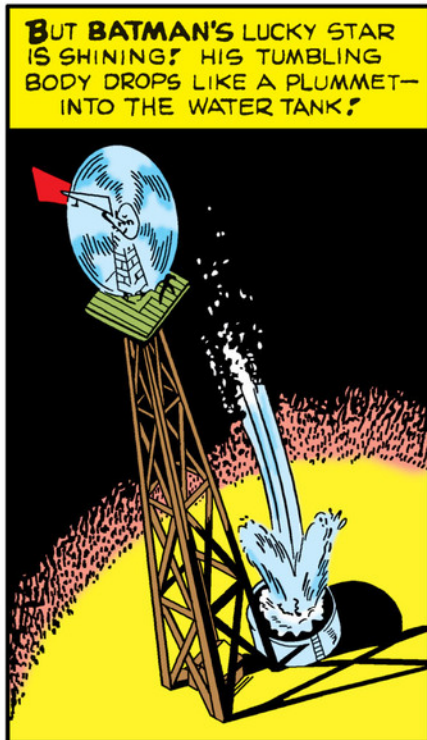
A WHIRLING WINDMILL BLADE CLIPS **BATMAN** ON THE TEMPLE... AND BATS HIM OFF THE SCAFFOLD INTO EMPTY SPACE!

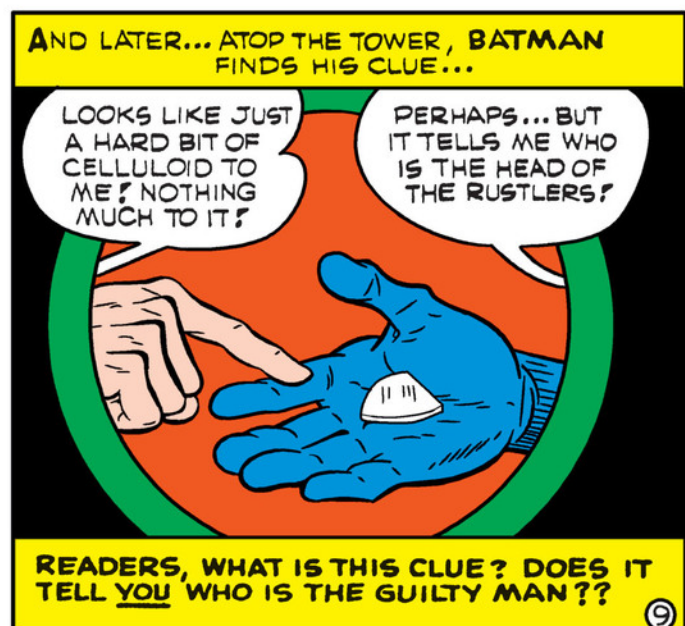
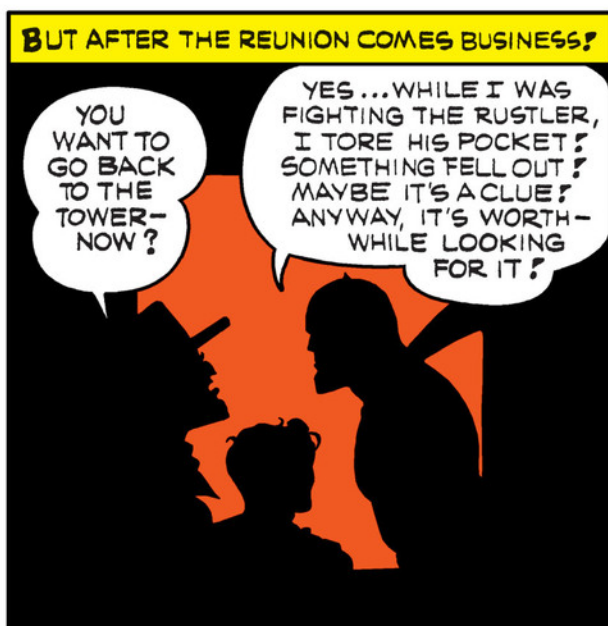
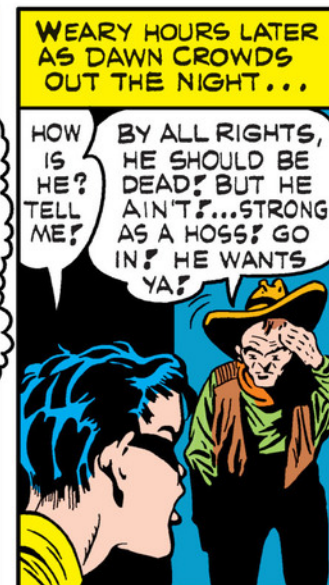
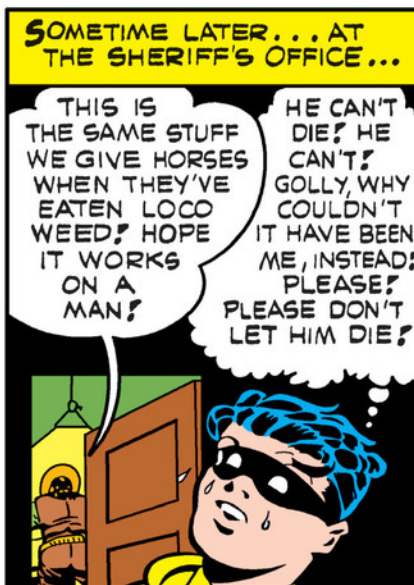


GASPING FOR BREATH, **BATMAN** BENDS OVER IN AGONY FROM THE FOWL KICK... BUT A FIERCE HAYMAKER STRAIGHTENS HIM UP... SENDS HIM TOTTERING BACK.... BACK....



... BACK TO THE CHURNING BLADES!





BATMAN EXPLAINS A PLAN OF STRATEGY...

YOU WANT SHERIFF COLT TO TELL EVERYONE YOU'RE DEAD?

I GET IT! THE GUILTY HOMBRE WILL THINK HIS SECRET'S SAFE, AND HE'LL CLIMB THAT TOWER AGAIN TO SIGNAL HIS MEN— BUT WE'LL NAB HIM FIRST!

NO! NO AMBUSH! I WANT THAT SIGNAL TO GO THROUGH SO IT WILL BRING THE RUSTLING GANG OUT OF HIDING AND WE CAN TRAP THE WHOLE MOB ALL ATONCE!

ACCORDINGLY... THAT DAY...

BATMAN... DEAD? ARE YOU SURE?

SHORE I'M SHORE! TAKIN' HIS BODY HOME NOW BY BATPLANE!

WELL... I GUESS THE RUSTLERS WILL BE GLAD OF THAT! WITH BATMAN OUT OF THE WAY THEY'LL STOP AT NOTHING NOW!

THAT NIGHT... ATOP A REARING TELEGRAPH TOWER...

HE'S SENDING SIGNALS TO THE NORTH! AND KRAFT'S "CIRCLE K" RANCH LIES NORTH! THIS IS IT!

SOON AFTER... A POSSE OF VENGEFUL LAWMEN GALLOPS ACROSS THE PRAIRIE!

C'MON, MEN! WE'VE GOTTA TAKE THEM RUSTLERS BY SURPRISE!

AND WHEN THE "CIRCLE K" RANGE IS REACHED, THE STREAMLINED METHOD OF MODERN RUSTLING IS REVEALED!

A TRAILER?? SO THAT'S HOW THEY WERE ABLE TO GET AWAY SO FAST!

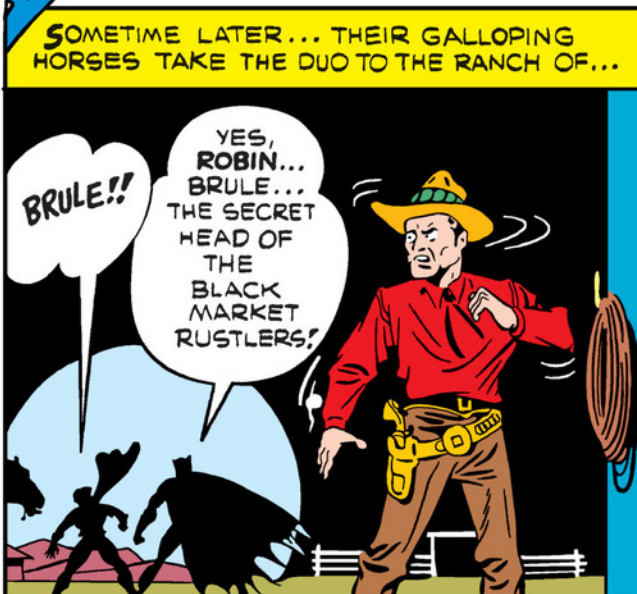
THEY'D LOAD ABOUT THIRTY HEAD OF STOCK INTO THAT TRAILER AND SPEED OFF WITH THEM BEFORE YOUR HORSES COULD EVEN GET CLOSE!

AN ANGRY BLAST FROM THE SHERIFF'S SIX-GUN IS THE SIGNAL FOR THE CHARGE!

LET THE COYOTES HAVE IT!

AND IN THE MIDST OF THAT GUN BATTLE, BATMAN AND ROBIN FLASH THEIR OWN BRAND OF BATTLE TACTICS!

SO YOU'RE A WESTERN BADMAN? NAUGHTY, NAUGHTY!



THEN, WITH A STICK, BATMAN TRACES TWO DESIGNS IN THE SOFT TURF...

AND HERE'S MY FINAL PROOF! I'VE TRACED THE BRANDS OF COTTER'S RANCH, THE "CO"... AND KRAFT'S RANCH, THE "CIRCLE K"! NOW OVER THEM I WILL SUPERIMPOSE THE MARKINGS OF THE TWO BRANDING IRONS FOUND IN THE RUSTLERS' TRUCK...

... AND NOW THEY BECOME THE "DOUBLE BAR 8" RANCH AND THE "THREE ARROW CIRCLE" RANCH... THE NAMES AND BRANDS OF YOUR TWO RANCHES!

YOU TOOK THOSE NAMES AND BRANDS FOR YOUR RANCHES SO YOU COULD RUSTLE COTTER AND KRAFT'S CATTLE AND MINGLE THEM WITH YOUR OWN HERD!

YA SNOOPIN' TENDERFOOT? I'LL...

BLAM!
BLAM!

MAYBE I CAN'T GET YOU, BUT I CAN GET THIS BRAT YOU'RE SO FOND OF!... AGH!

BLAM!

I GUESS IT WAS OL' BETSY WHO HAD THE LAST WORD IN THIS TRIGGER TALK!

NEXT MORNING BATMAN AND ROBIN PREPARE TO BREAK CAMP...

BATMAN, YOU AND ROBIN DID US A SWELL SERVICE BY HELPIN' TO WIPE OUT THOSE BLACK MARKET RUSTLERS!

SHERIFF, IF PEOPLE WOULDN'T PATRONIZE BLACK MARKET TRAITORS AND THINK MORE OF THEIR COUNTRY INSTEAD OF THEIR STOMACHS, THAT WOULD BE THE GREATEST SERVICE OF ALL!

AND SO, IT'S GOODBYE TO THE LAND OF THE PURPLE SAGE AS THE BATPLANE WINGS EASTWARD OVER THE ROLLING PRAIRIE...

WELL, SHERIFF, THERE THEY GO... BACK TO THE BIG CITY!

YEP... THEY DID THEIR PART... LET'S HOPE OTHER FOLKS DO THEIRS!?

THE END

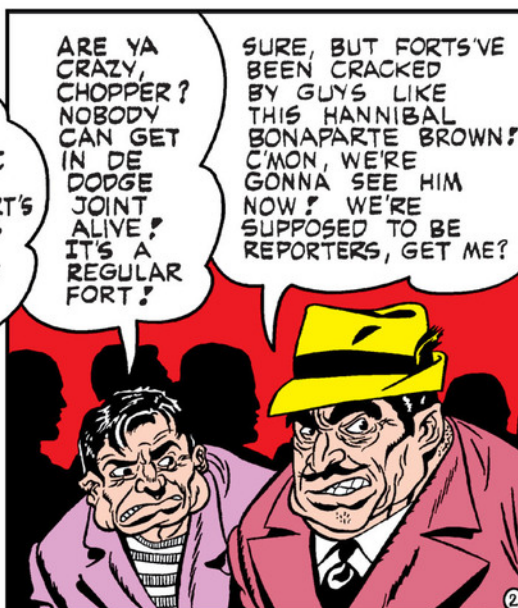
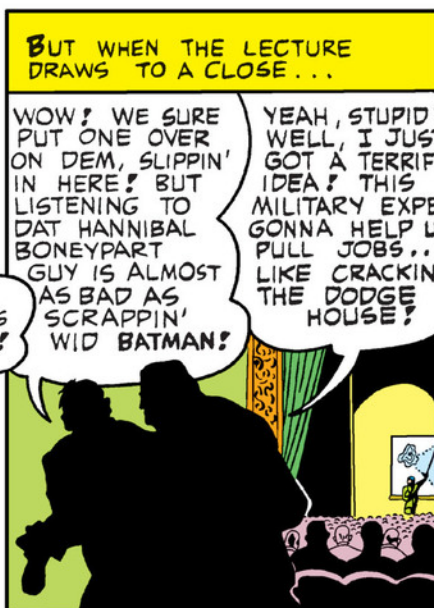
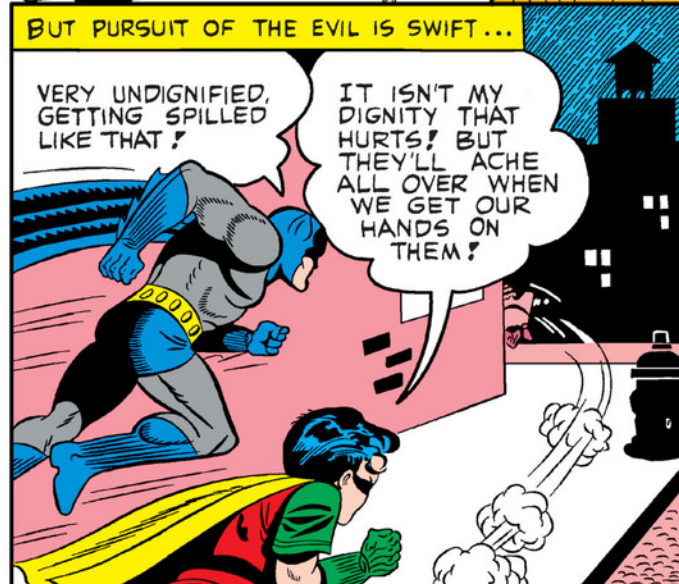
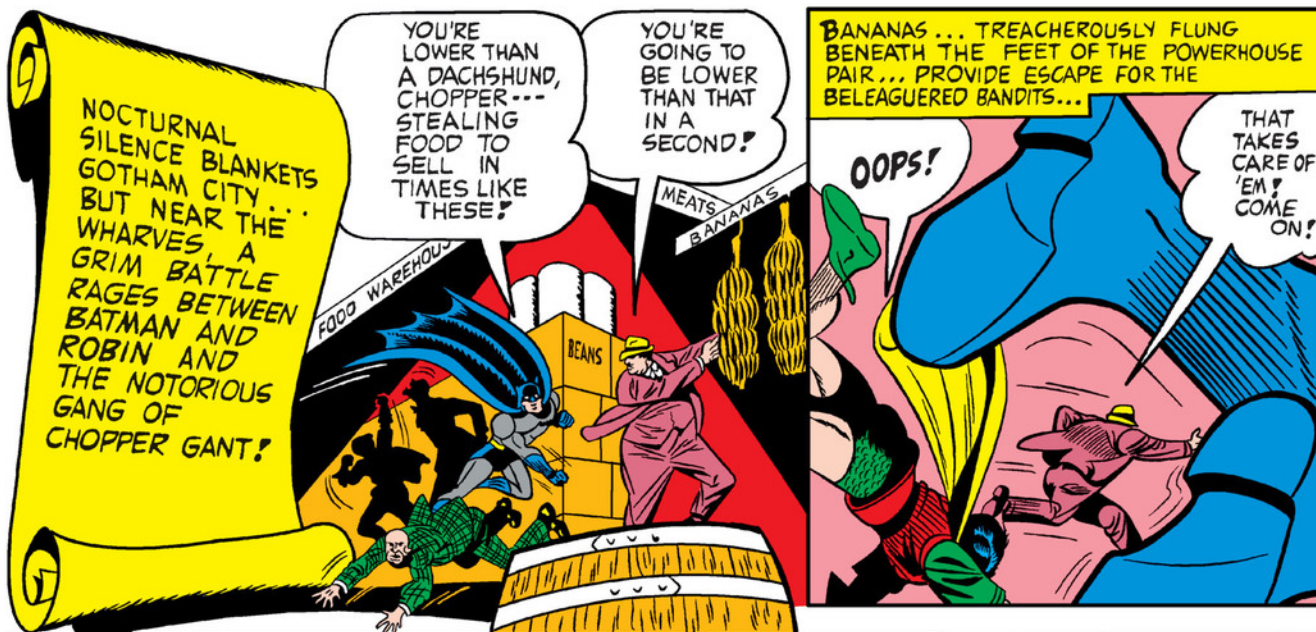


CRIME COMMUNIQUE

TAST NIGHT, OUR MECHANIZED RIFLERS STORMED A STRATEGIC STRONGHOLD--- JONES JEWELS INC.--- AND PUT OUT OF ACTION ONE NIGHT WATCHMAN AND TWO COPS... THEN RETIRED TO PREVIOUSLY PREPARED POSITIONS WITH MUCH BOOTY, INCLUDING A DIAMOND NECKLACE WORTH TEN GRAND, EMERALD BRACELETS, RINGS, WATCHES, ETC.!

THERE'S A SAMPLE OF WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CRIMINAL FORCES IN FULL BATTLE ARRAY TAKE THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST LAW AND ORDER IN GOTHAM CITY! BUT WHEN THOSE TWO TACTICAL TERRORS--- MIGHTY BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER--- LAUNCH A THUNDERING COUNTER-ATTACK, BRAINS AND BRAWN TURN THE TIDE OF COMBAT! AND IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE SHOOTING FOR THE...


"BLITZKRIEG BANDITS!"



BACKSTAGE ...

REAL REPORTERS? MY GOODNESS, ARE YOU SURE IT'S ME YOU WANT? I'VE NEVER BEEN INTERVIEWED IN MY LIFE!


YOU WORK WITH US, BROWNIE, AND YOU'LL BE INTERVIEWED PLENTY! WE'RE GONNA MAKE YOU FAMOUS AND PUT A LOAD OF DOUGH IN YOUR POCKET, SEE!



FAME AND FORTUNE--- TANTALIZING BAIT TO DANGLE BEFORE AN OPSCURE LITTLE DREAMER.

WE'LL FIX YOU UP A REGULAR HQ, WITH MAPS AND ALL THE OTHER STUFF YOU NEED... AND A SWELL SALARY... AND YOU GIVE US THE ANSWERS TO WHAT WE HAVE TO WRITE ABOUT! HOW DOES THAT SOUND TO YOU?

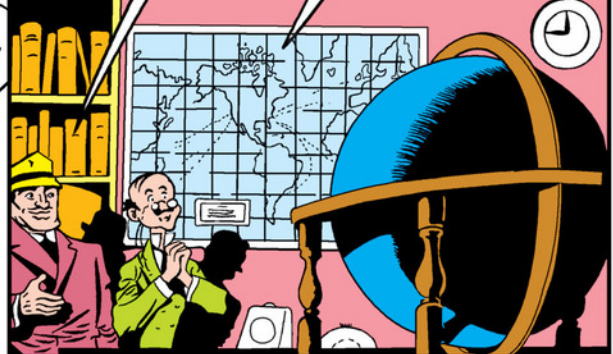
MY WORD! WONDERFUL!



LATER, AT THE GANG'S HIDEOUT...

WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT, BROWNIE?


IT'S---IT'S THE ANSWER TO ALL MY PRAYERS! MY WHOLE LIFE SPENT STUDYING THE INTRICACIES OF MILITARY SCIENCE... AND NOW AT LAST I'M TO BE A RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY! I'M--- I'M--- DEAR ME, I'M ALL CHOKED UP!



HIS UNWITTING VICTIM SECURELY SNARED, THE WILY CRIME LEADER GETS DOWN TO BUSINESS...

NOW, US REPORTERS GOT A PROBLEM TO WRITE ABOUT FOR TOMORROW! WE GOTTA FIGURE OUT HOW TO CAPTURE AN ENEMY FORT UP ON A MOUNTAIN TOP! OUR MOB... UH... SOLDIERS CAN'T JUST WALK UP AND TAKE IT BECAUSE THEY'D BE CUT DOWN BY MACHINE GUNS! SO HOW CAN IT BE DONE?


A FASCINATING PROBLEM, MR. GANT! FRONTAL ASSAULT WOULD BE INEFFECTIVE, AS YOU SUGGEST! I WOULD ADVISE THE MOST MODERN METHODS DEvised!




A "FASCINATING PROBLEM" IN PURE STRATEGY TO UNWORLDLY HANNIBAL BONAPARTE BROWN... BUT A SHREWD CRIMINAL PLAN TO CHOPPER GANT! FOR THAT NIGHT...

BOY, YER A GENIUS, CHOPPER... GETTING DAT EXPERT TO TELL US HOW TO CRACK DE DODGE JOINT! OLD MAN DODGE T'INKS IT'S BURGLAR PROOF! IS HE GONNA BE SURPRISED?

YEAH! AFTER WE LOOT THE PLACE, WE'LL MEET THE PLANE IN THE VALLEY AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MOUNTAIN!

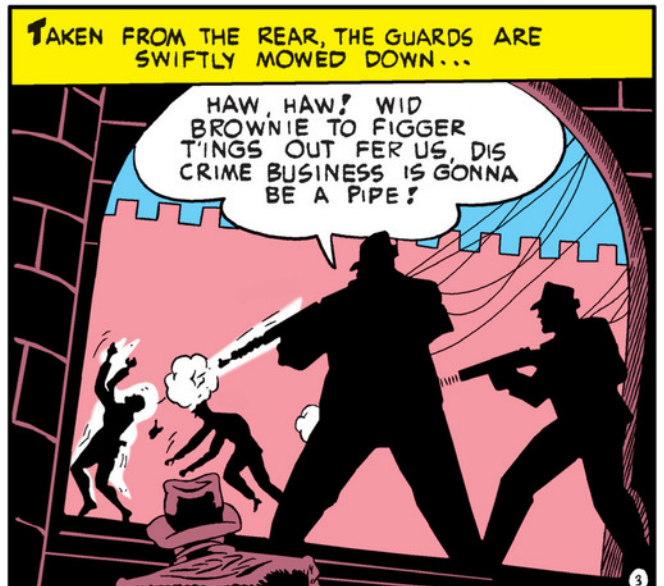


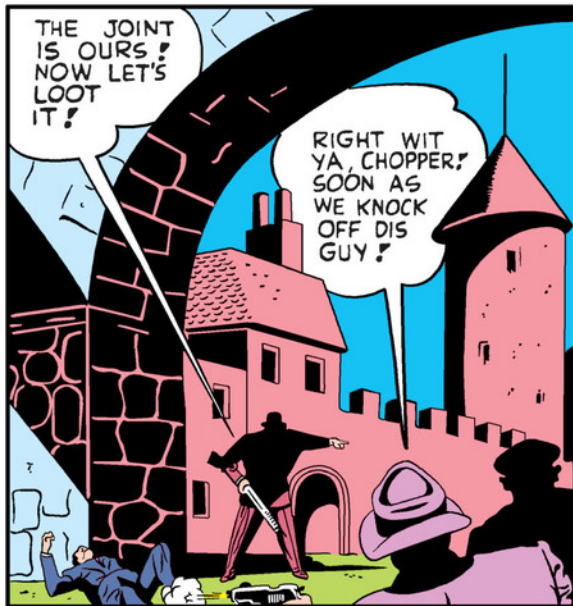
PARACHUTES SUDDENLY BLOSSOM IN THE MURKY SKY, AND THEN FLOAT TOWARD THE MASSIVE STRONGHOLD OF THE MILLIONAIRE RECLUSE... A PARATROOP ATTACK!




TAKEN FROM THE REAR, THE GUARDS ARE SWIFTLY MOWED DOWN...

HAW, HAW! WID BROWNIE TO FIGGER T'INGS OUT FER US, DIS CRIME BUSINESS IS GONNA BE A PIPE!



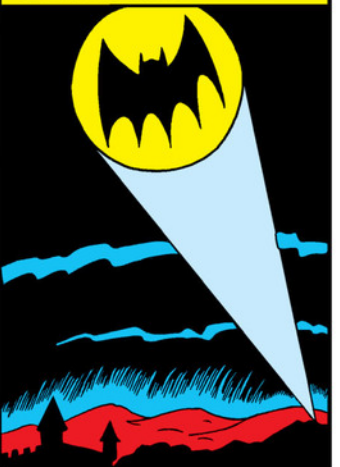


BUT AS THE KILLER HORDE RACES AWAY, A WOUNDED GUARD... LEFT FOR DEAD IN THE CRIMSON SHAMBLES... STRUGGLES TO A CALL-BOX AND...

PO-POLICE HEADQUARTERS? P-PARACHUTE CROOKS H-HAVE INVADED TH-THE DODGE HOME ON THE MOUNTAIN TOP! H-HURRY!



A BLINDING BEAM SLASHES THROUGH THE DARKNESS---A NIGHTMARE SIGNAL TO THE WICKED--- CALLING THE BATMAN!



AND A WEIRD BAT SHAPE WHIZZES ON SILENCED, SUPER-SWIFT PROPELLERS TO THE FRAY---THE BAT-PLANE, DREAD SCOURGE OF THE SKIES!

THE DODGE HOME? GOSH, BATMAN, THAT'S ONE PLACE I NEVER THOUGHT COULD BE ROBBED!



MEANWHILE, IN THE ANCIENT WEAPONS ROOM OF THE MOUNTAIN STRONGHOLD...

I WAS A FOOL NOT TO TRUST MY MONEY AND JEWELS TO A BANK! THAT'S WHERE I'LL KEEP THEM FROM NOW ON!



BUT SUDDENLY---

NOBODY BUT THE TWO OF US, CHOPPER! BUT DON'T LET US STOP YOU--- IF YOU CAN!

HEY, WE'RE OUTFLANKED OR WHATEVER DEY CALL IT!



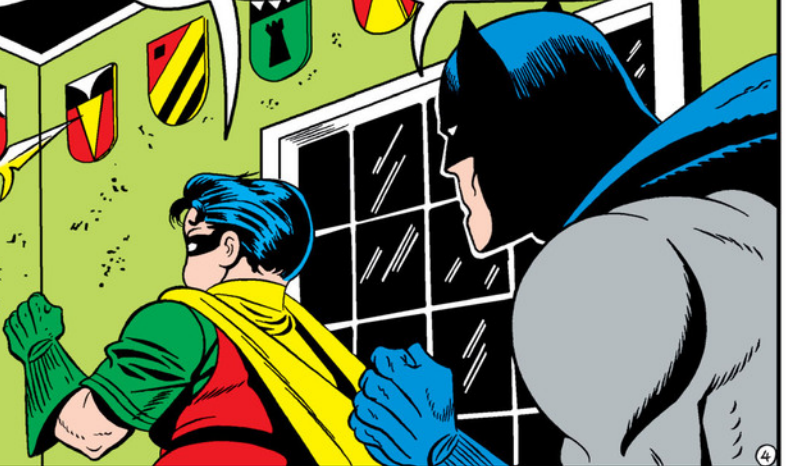
SWIFTLY, THOUGH, THE BANDIT COMMANDER MARSHALS HIS SHAKEN FORCES!

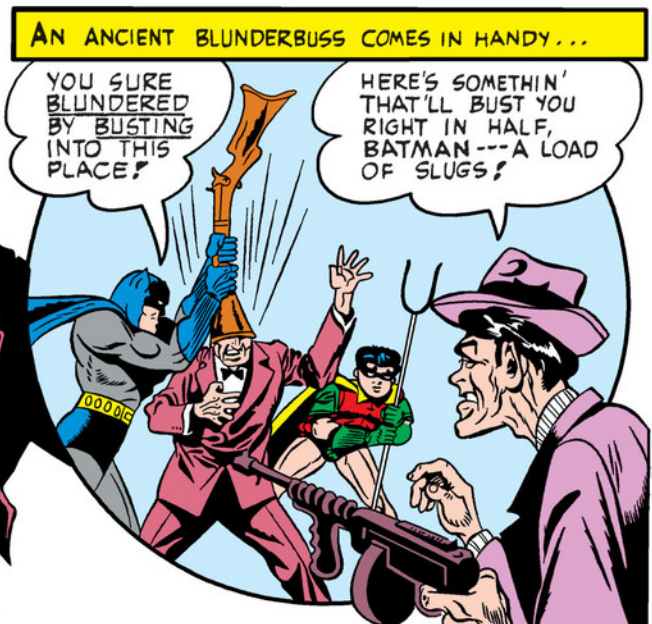


RUSH 'EM! THEY CAN'T LICK ALL OF US AT ONCE!

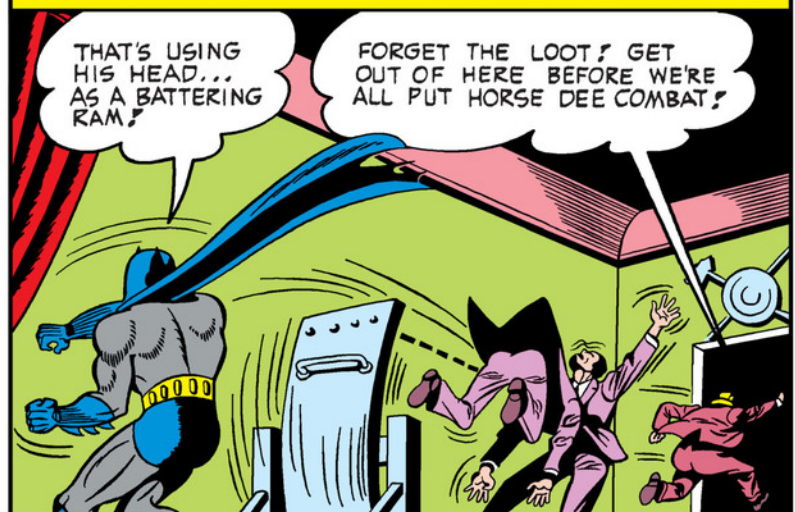
OH-OH! CHOPPER AND HIS BOYS WANT TO PLAY FOR KEEPS!

WELL, WE'RE PRETTY GOOD AT HITTING THE JACKPOT OURSELVES!

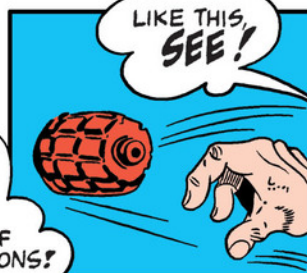




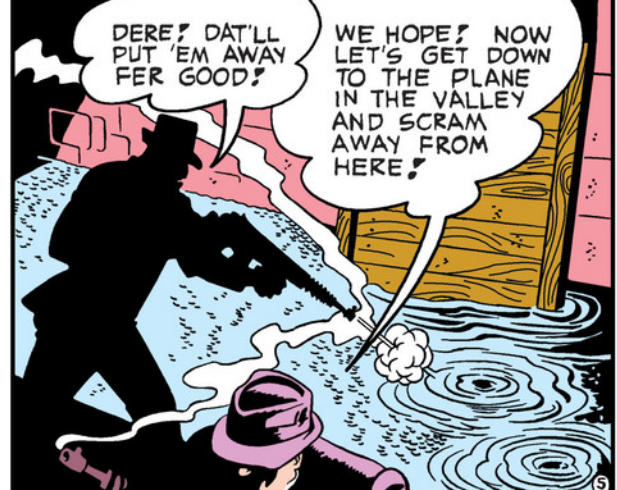
WITH A BLAZE OF SPEED, THE POWERHOUSE PAIR DELIVERS A FINAL SMASHING BLOW TO THE SHATTERED ENEMY MORALE...



THE BANDIT BRIGADE FLEES IN PANIC... BUT FOOTSTEPS POUND IN SWIFT PURSUIT BEHIND THEM!



THEN... TOMMY-GUNS STUTTER IN SINISTER STACCATO AS THE MOBSTERS MAKE DOOM DOUBLY CERTAIN FOR THE TORNADO TEAM!



BUT LONG MINUTES LATER..

WHEW! THAT LONG SWIM UNDERWATER IS TOUGH ON THE LUNGS! BUT AT LEAST WE ESCAPED THOSE BULLETS!

YEAH! BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO GET OUT OF THIS MOAT?



THIS OUGHT TO DO THE JOB!

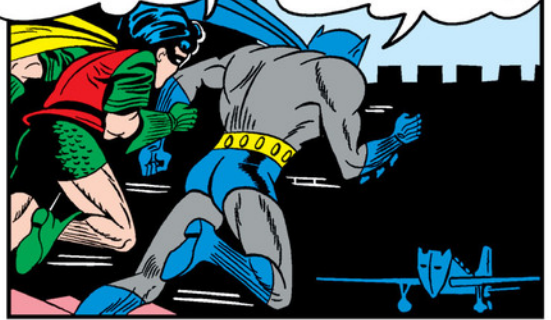
NICE THROW!



SCRAMBLING SWIFTLY UP THE STEEL-STRONG SILKEN ROPE, THE CAPED COMRADES RACE TO THE BATPLANE PARKED IN THE COURTYARD...

I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT, BATMAN! CHOPPER ALWAYS WAS A SMART GANG LEADER... BUT NOTHING LIKE NOW! YOU'D THINK HE WAS A GENERAL THE WAY HE PLANNED THIS CRIME!

RIGHT! ONLY CHOPPER ISN'T ANY MILITARY STRATEGIST---HE PROVED THAT ALL THROUGH HIS CRIMINAL CAREER! SO SOMEBODY ELSE MUST BE DOING HIS PLANNING FOR HIM! BUT WHO?



SUPER-CHARGED MOTORS WHISPER TO POWERFUL LIFE... AND THE SPEEDY BATPLANE STREAKS OFF ON THE TRAIL! BUT...

GUESS WE'D BETTER GIVE UP! THERE ISN'T A TRACE OF 'EM!

NOW I REMEMBER! THAT LECTURE HALL WE THOUGHT THE GANG WOULDN'T GO INTO! A MILITARY EXPERT WAS GIVING A TALK THERE! COME ON, WE'RE GOING TO DO SOME CHECKING ON HIM!



AT THAT MOMENT, MANY MILES AWAY...

WELL, WE'RE BACK AT DE HIDEOUT WIDOUT DE SWAG! BUT BATMAN AN' DAT BRAT'RE OUTA DA WAY FOR GOOD, HUH, CHOPPER?

I AIN'T SO SURE! THEY GOT MORE LIVES THAN A FAMILY OF CATS! BUT IF THEY'RE STILL ALIVE, WE'RE GONNA GET RID OF 'EM... AND BROWNIE'S GONNA FIGURE OUT HOW!



WHEN AM I GOING TO SEE THE ARTICLES YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES ARE WRITING ABOUT ME, MR. GANT? I CAN HARDLY WAIT!

LATER! RIGHT NOW WE GOT A BIG PROBLEM! LET'S SAY WE GOTTA CAPTURE A COUPLA TOUGH ENEMY SPIES AND BUMP... UH... BRING 'EM TO JUSTICE! HOW COULD WE GO ABOUT IT?

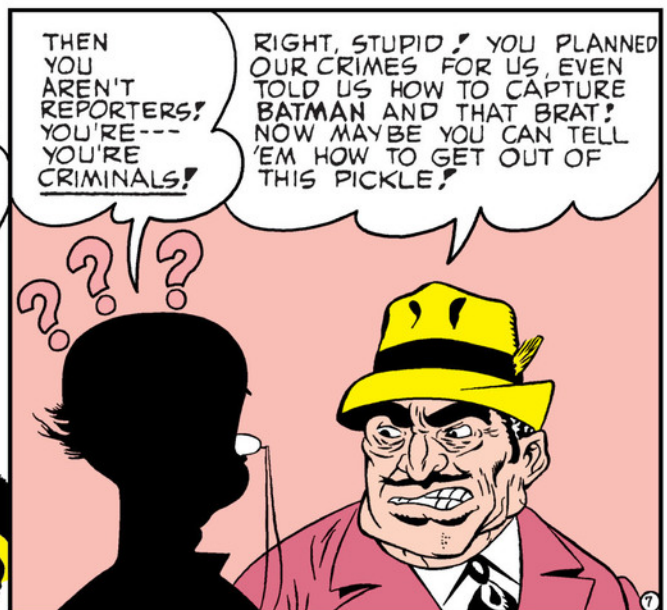
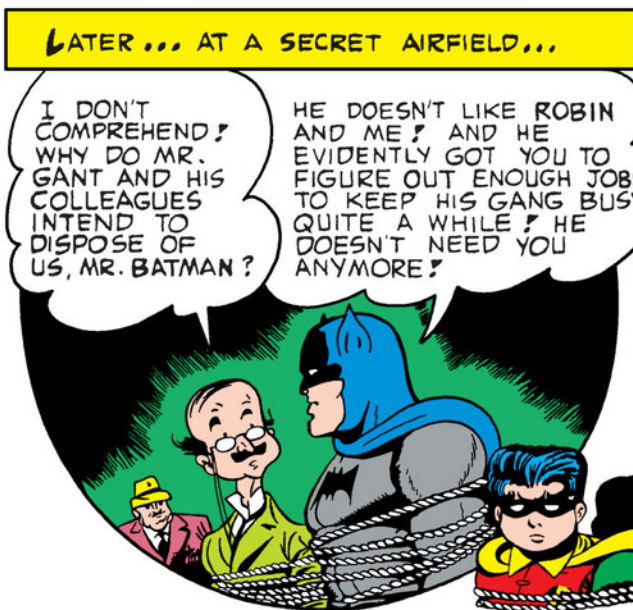
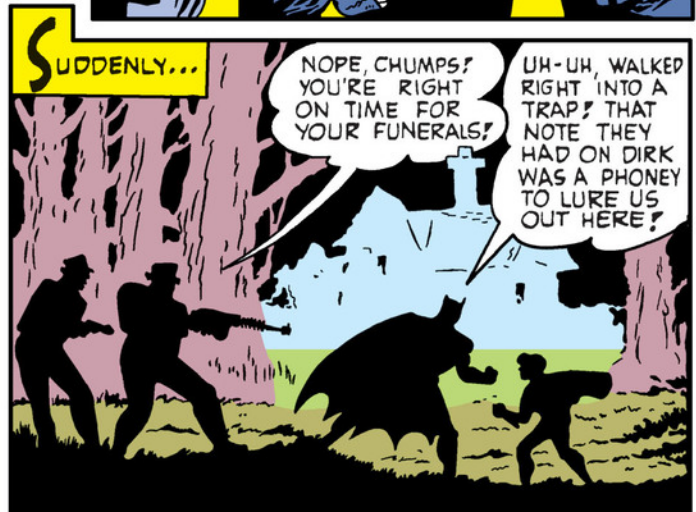
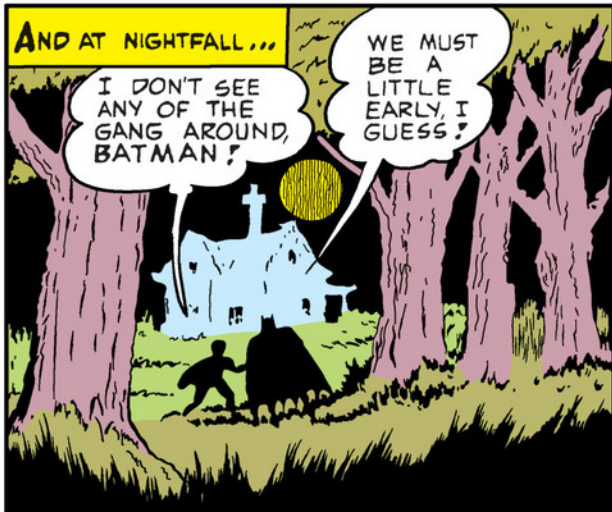
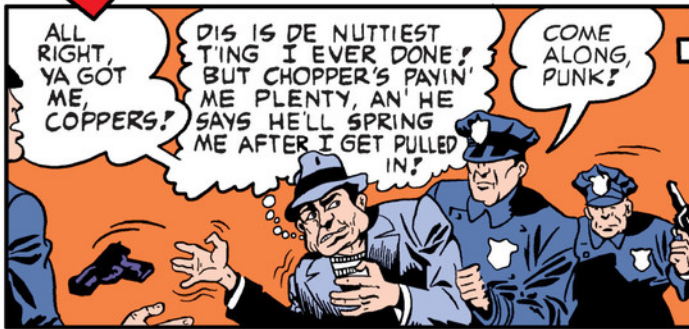
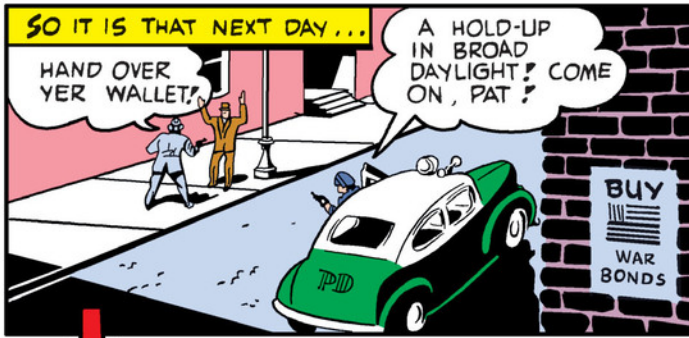


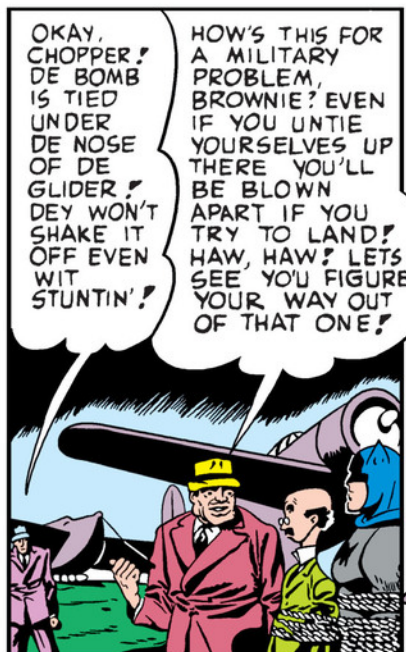
UNSUSPECTING, THE MILITARY EXPERT'S BRILLIANT TACTICAL MIND CONCEIVES A DEADLY PLAN OF AMBUSH FOR THOSE CHAMPIONS OF JUSTICE--- THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!

HMMM! NOT PURELY A PROBLEM IN STRATEGY, BUT ONE THAT IS OFTEN IMPORTANT IN WARFARE! DECEIT IS ESSENTIAL... IF ONE OF OUR SOLDIERS WERE CAPTURED WITH FALSE INFORMATION ON HIM...

I GETCHA, BROWNIE!

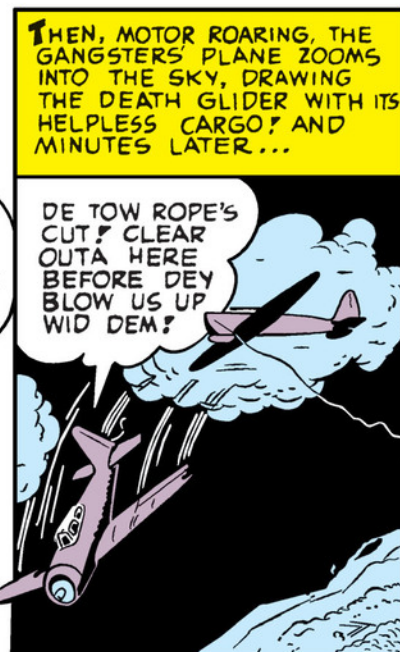






OKAY, CHOPPER! DE BOMB IS TIED UNDER DE NOSE OF DE GLIDER! DEY WON'T SHAKE IT OFF EVEN WIT STUNTIN'!

HOW'S THIS FOR A MILITARY PROBLEM, BROWNIE? EVEN IF YOU UNTIE YOURSELVES UP THERE YOU'LL BE BLOWN APART IF YOU TRY TO LAND! HAW, HAW! LETS SEE YOU FIGURE YOUR WAY OUT OF THAT ONE!



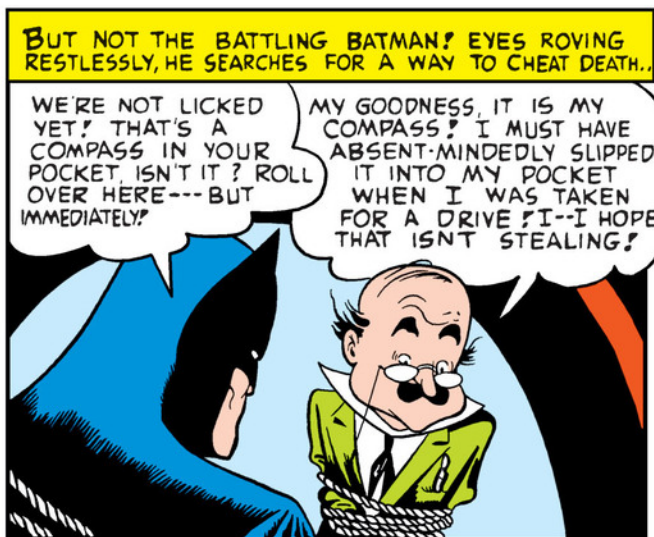
THEN, MOTOR ROARING, THE GANGSTERS' PLANE ZOOMS INTO THE SKY, DRAWING THE DEATH GLIDER WITH ITS HELPLESS CARGO! AND MINUTES LATER...

DE TOW ROPE'S CUT! CLEAR OUTA HERE BEFORE DEY BLOW US UP WID DEM!



WHAT A MESS WE'RE IN! WE CAN'T STAY UP HERE BECAUSE GLIDERS HAVE TO COME DOWN SOME TIME! AND IF WE LAND, THAT BOMB WILL GO OFF!

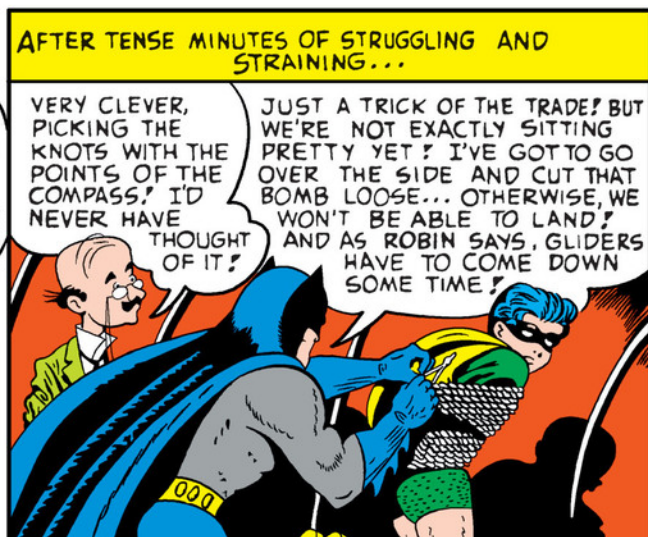
DEAR ME! THIS IS A PROBLEM! I'M AFRAID I MUST CONCEDE DEFEAT!



BUT NOT THE BATTLING BATMAN! EYES ROVING RESTLESSLY, HE SEARCHES FOR A WAY TO CHEAT DEATH...

WE'RE NOT LICKED YET! THAT'S A COMPASS IN YOUR POCKET, ISN'T IT? ROLL OVER HERE---BUT IMMEDIATELY!

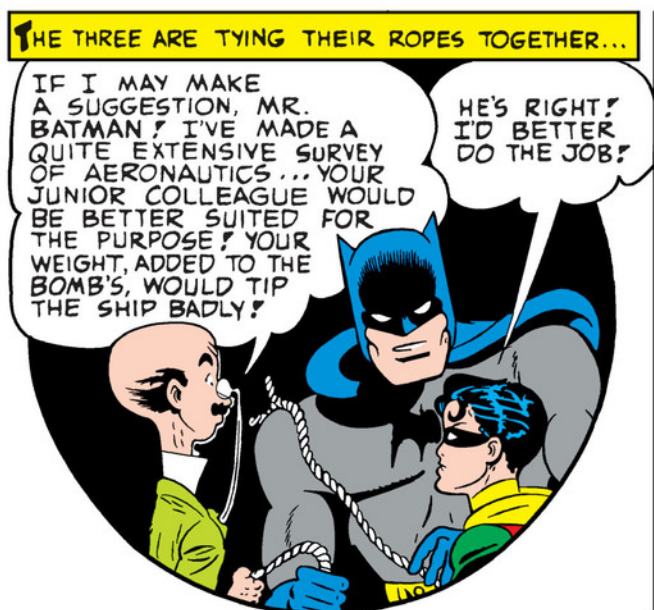
MY GOODNESS, IT IS MY COMPASS! I MUST HAVE ABSENT-MINDEDLY SLIPPED IT INTO MY POCKET WHEN I WAS TAKEN FOR A DRIVE! I-I HOPE THAT ISN'T STEALING!



AFTER TENSE MINUTES OF STRUGGLING AND STRAINING...

VERY CLEVER, PICKING THE KNOTS WITH THE POINTS OF THE COMPASS! I'D NEVER HAVE THOUGHT OF IT!

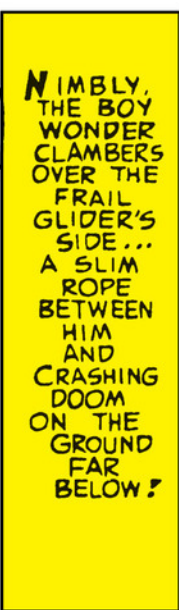
JUST A TRICK OF THE TRADE! BUT WE'RE NOT EXACTLY SITTING PRETTY YET! I'VE GOT TO GO OVER THE SIDE AND CUT THAT BOMB LOOSE... OTHERWISE, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO LAND! AND AS ROBIN SAYS, GLIDERS HAVE TO COME DOWN SOME TIME!



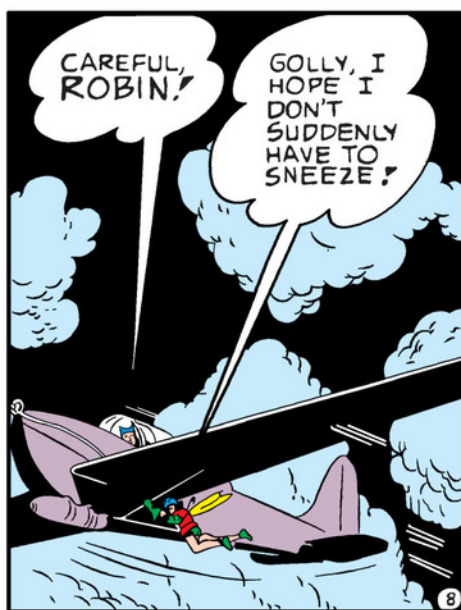
THE THREE ARE TYING THEIR ROPES TOGETHER...

IF I MAY MAKE A SUGGESTION, MR. BATMAN! I'VE MADE A QUITE EXTENSIVE SURVEY OF AERONAUTICS... YOUR JUNIOR COLLEAGUE WOULD BE BETTER SUITED FOR THE PURPOSE! YOUR WEIGHT, ADDED TO THE BOMB'S, WOULD TIP THE SHIP BADLY!

HE'S RIGHT! I'D BETTER DO THE JOB!



NIMBLY, THE BOY WONDER CLAMBERS OVER THE FRAIL GLIDER'S SIDE... A SLIM ROPE BETWEEN HIM AND CRASHING DOOM ON THE GROUND FAR BELOW!



CAREFUL, ROBIN!

GOLLY, I HOPE I DON'T SUDDENLY HAVE TO SNEEZE!

BUT TROUBLE LOOMS LARGE FOR THE TRAPPED TRIO! FOR...

WE'RE LOSING ALTITUDE! EVEN ROBIN'S WEIGHT WAS ENOUGH TO BRING DOWN THE BOW! GRAB THE WHEEL... I'LL TRY TO BALANCE THE SHIP AT THE OTHER END!

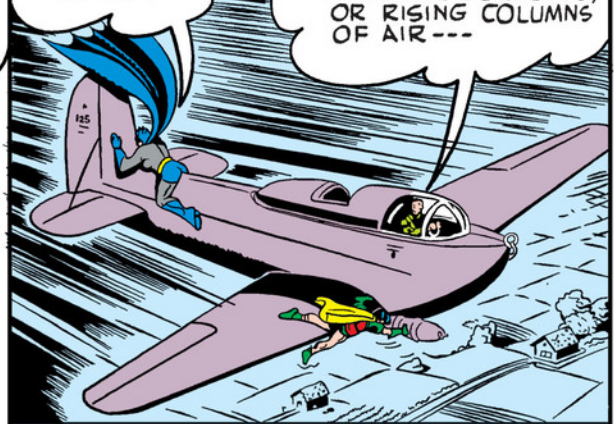
GOODNESS ME! I HOPE I CAN DO IT! YOU SEE, I'VE NEVER EVEN GONE UP IN A GLIDER OR PLANE, LET ALONE FLY ONE!



MOMENTS LATER...

THERE! THE TAIL IS GOING DOWN A LITTLE!

IT'S FORTUNATE I REMEMBER ALL I READ ON THE SUBJECT LET ME SEE... THE FIRST PRINCIPLE IS TO EMPLOY THE THERMAL CURRENTS, OR RISING COLUMNS OF AIR---



CLINGING PERILOUSLY TO THE SWAYING CRAFT, ROBIN FINALLY LOOSENS THE BOMB'S LASHINGS AND...

WHEW! THAT JOB IS DONE! AND JUST IN TIME, TOO!



THEN...

THANK HEAVEN THAT'S OVER! BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT THE GANG IS GOING TO DO! THEY HAD ME OUTLINE A PLAN TO CAPTURE AN ENEMY TANK PLANT---BUT I'M SURE IT'S AN AMERICAN ONE THEY INTEND TO ATTACK! WHAT SHALL WE DO?

GET TO THE TANK FACTORY OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY AS FAST AS WE CAN! THIS GLIDER'S THE ONLY TRANSPORTATION HANDY! SO YOU'LL HAVE TO FLY US THERE...



MEANWHILE, AT A FASHIONABLE HOTEL IN GOTHAM CITY...

THEES EES AN OUTRAGE! WE ARE VISITING DEEPLOMATS FROM AN ALLIED COUNTRREE! WE SHALL PROTEST TO THE PRESIDENTE HIMSELF!

WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE--- THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE! HAND OVER YOUR CREDENTIALS AND FANCY DUDS!



BONAS NOTCHES, SEENOR! WE ARE VISITING DEEPLOMATS FROM AN ALLIED COUNTRREE! HOW'S DAT SOUND, CHOPPER?

ELEGANT! THEY'LL NEVER SUSPECT YOU--- AS LONG AS YOU KEEP YER TRAP SHUT! NOW HURRY UP! WE AIN'T GOT MUCH TIME!

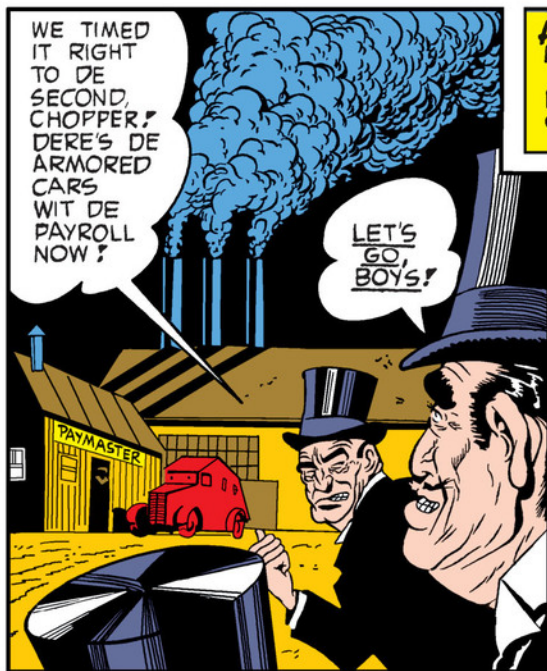


SPEEDING THROUGH CROWDED STREETS, THE DISGUISED GANGSTERS SOON REACH THE GIANT WAR FACTORY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...

WE HAVE BEEN COMMESSIONED BY OUR COUNTRREE TO EENSPECT THEES SO-GREAT TANK PLANT, WHEECH EES MAKEENG TANKS FOR OUR COUNTRREE! EET EES ---HOW DO YOU SAY?--- OKAY WEETH YOU?

CERTAINLY, SENOR! YOUR CREDENTIALS ARE IN ORDER! PLEASE FOLLOW ME AND I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND PERSONALLY!





WE TIMED IT RIGHT TO DE SECOND, CHOPPER! DERE'S DE ARMORED CARS WIT DE PAYROLL NOW!

LET'S GO, BOYS!

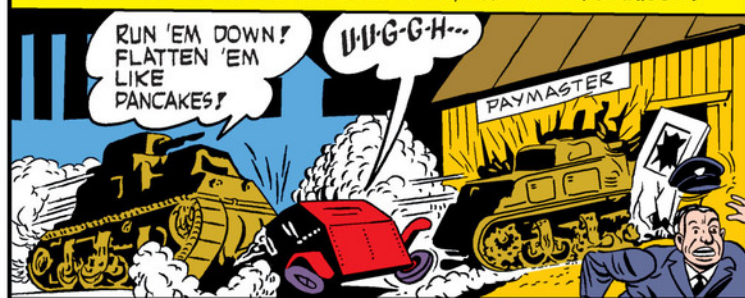
ABRUPTLY, THE BUCCANEER BATTALION'S PLAN IS REVEALED IN ALL ITS CRIMINAL INGENUITY...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? GET OUT OF THOSE TANKS... AAAH!

WE'RE GRABBING YOUR PAYROLL. THAT'S WHAT! AND IF YOU THINK YOU CAN GET US OUT OF THESE TANKS, TRY IT!

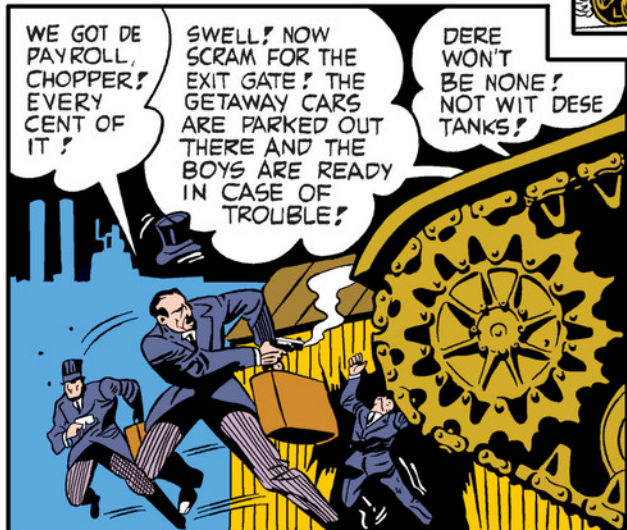


HUGE TREADS CLANK AND CLASH AS THE METAL BEHEMOTHS THUNDER DOWN ON THE ARMORED CARS, PUNY IN COMPARISON!



RUN 'EM DOWN! FLATTEN 'EM LIKE PANCAKES!

WUG-G-H...



WE GOT DE PAYROLL, CHOPPER! EVERY CENT OF IT!

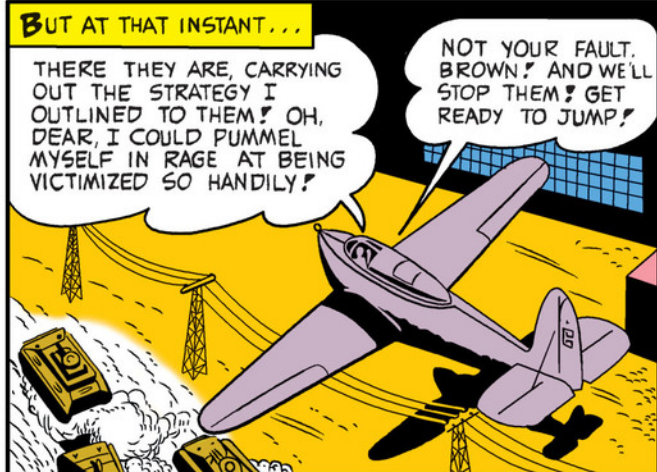
SWELL! NOW SCRAM FOR THE EXIT GATE! THE GETAWAY CARS ARE PARKED OUT THERE AND THE BOYS ARE READY IN CASE OF TROUBLE!

DERE WON'T BE NONE! NOT WIT DESE TANKS!

BUT AT THAT INSTANT...

THERE THEY ARE, CARRYING OUT THE STRATEGY I OUTLINED TO THEM! OH, DEAR, I COULD PUMMEL MYSELF IN RAGE AT BEING VICTIMIZED SO HANDILY!

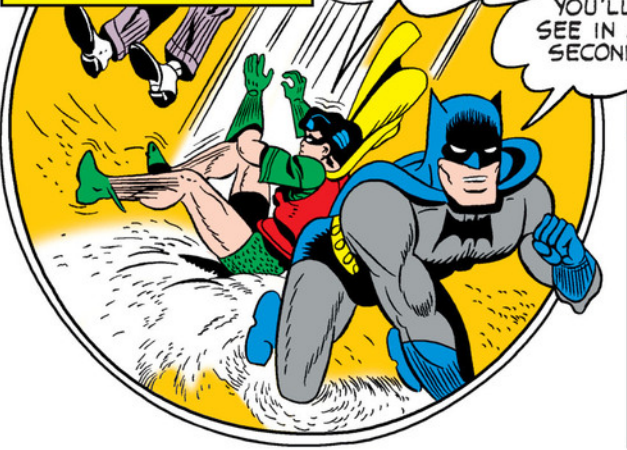
NOT YOUR FAULT, BROWN! AND WE'LL STOP THEM! GET READY TO JUMP!



THEN... THREE FIGURES PLUMMET TO THE CUSHIONING SAND OF THE PROVING GROUNDS, WHERE TANKS ARE TESTED FOR DESERT COMBAT...

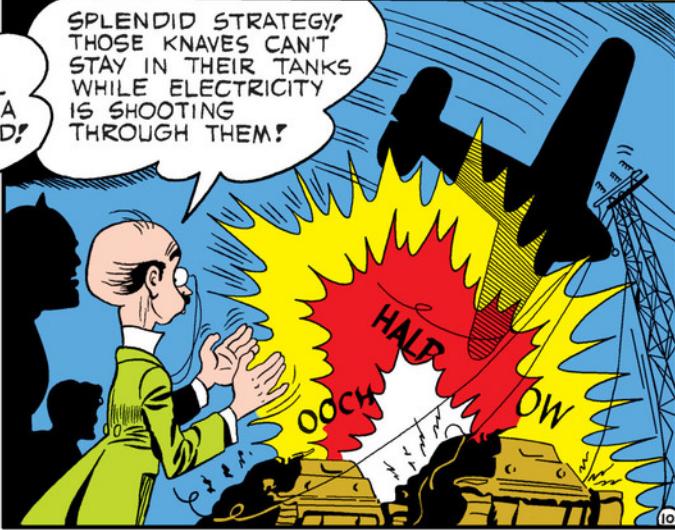
OOF! AM I GLAD THIS ISN'T CONCRETE! NOW HOW DO WE BATTLE THOSE BIG TANKS?

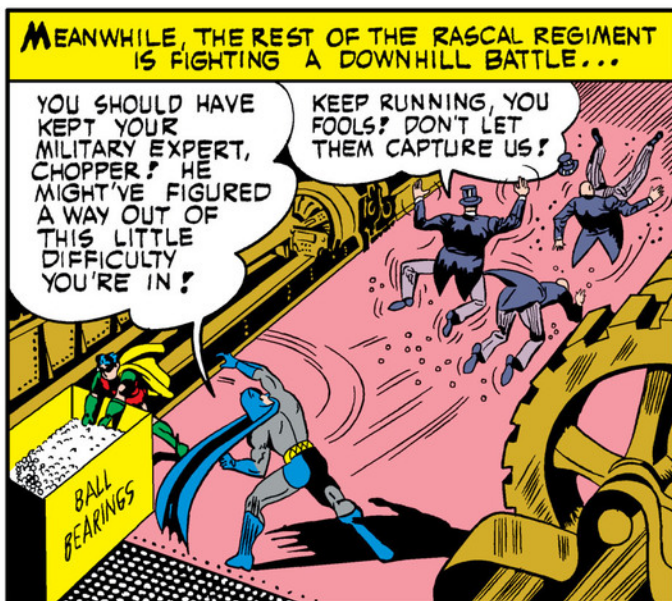
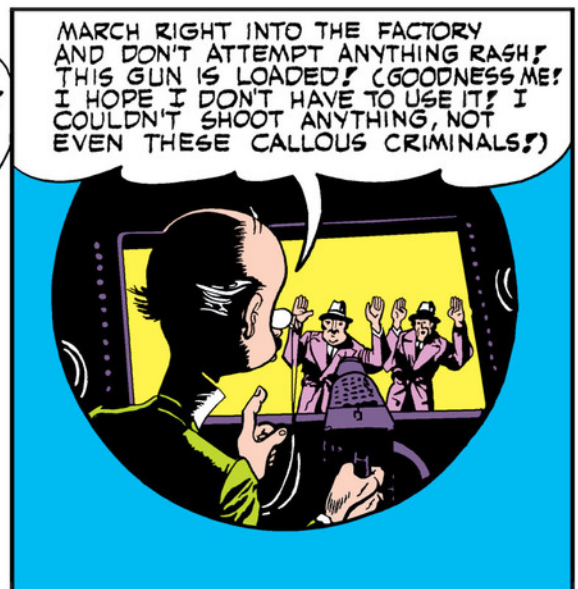
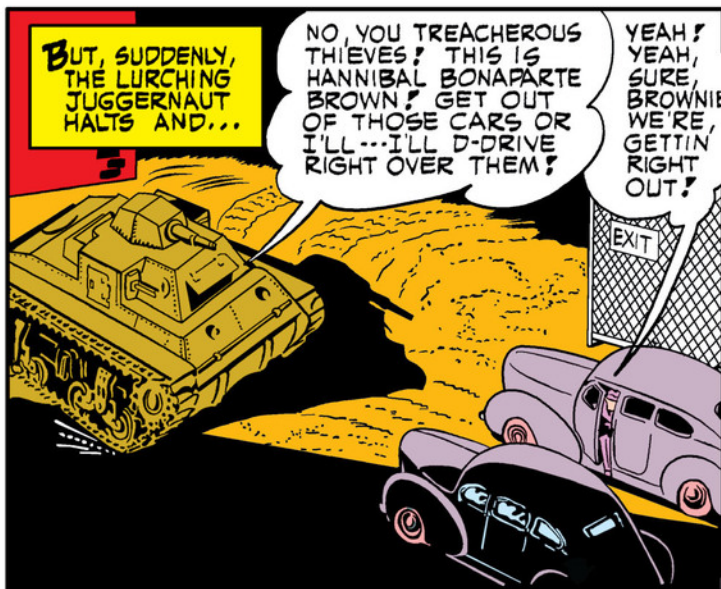
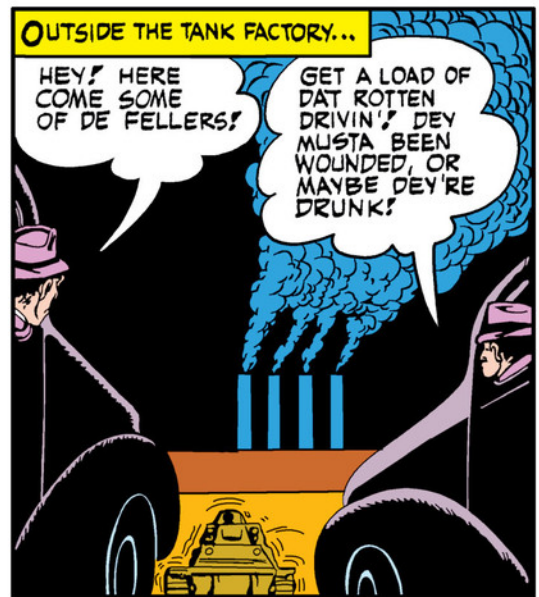
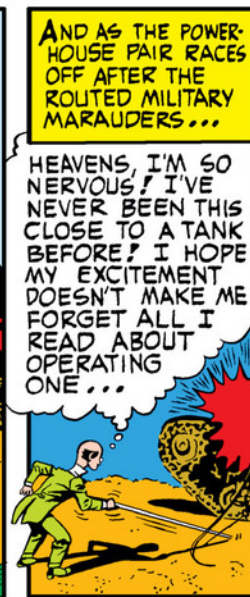
YOU'LL SEE IN A SECOND!

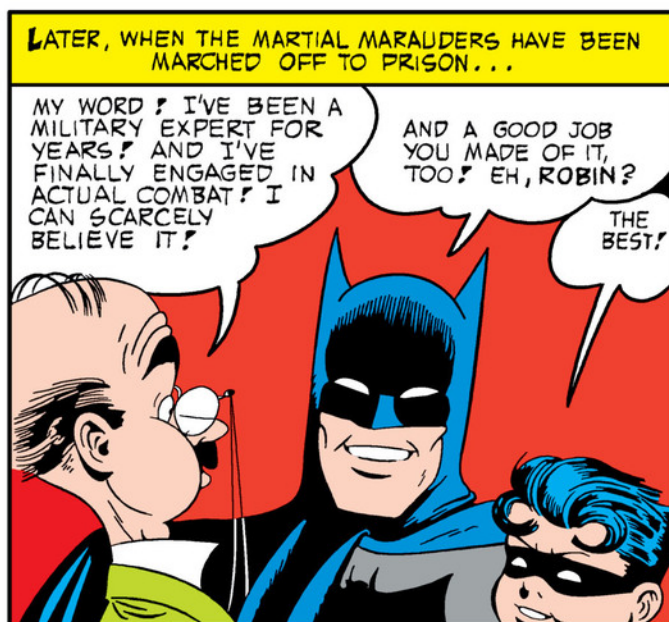
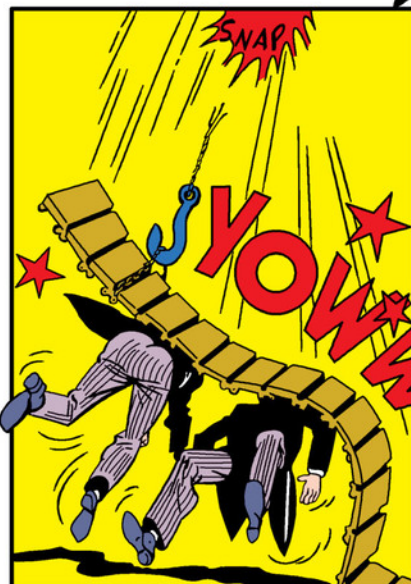
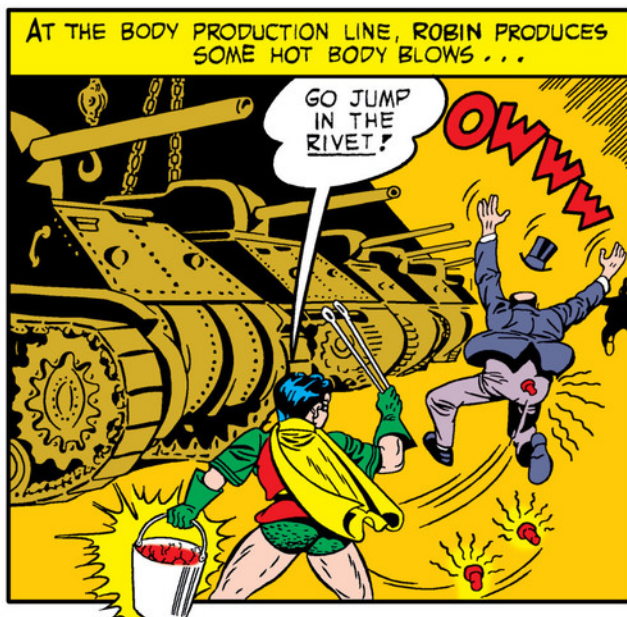


... WHILE THE GLIDER SAILS ON TO CRASH INTO HIGH-TENSION CABLES, TOPPLING THEM ONTO THE RUMBLING METAL MONSTERS!

SPLENDID STRATEGY! THOSE KNAVES CAN'T STAY IN THEIR TANKS WHILE ELECTRICITY IS SHOOTING THROUGH THEM!







BATMAN

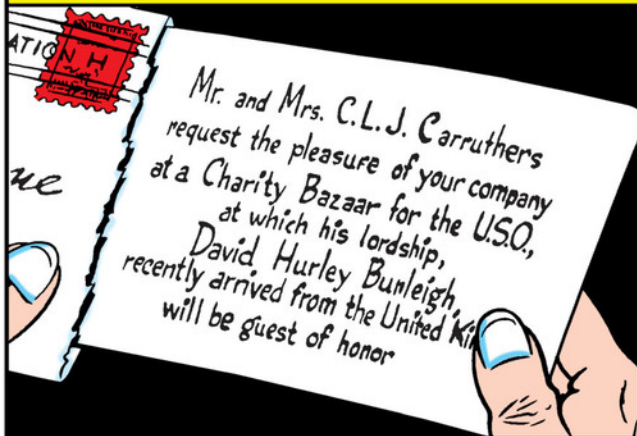
WITH
ROBIN

UNLESS, LIKE THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, TROUBLE IS YOUR BUSINESS, NEVER HIRE A BUTLER WITH A HANKERING FOR HILARITY! FOR WHEN ALFRED PULLS A PRANK ON HIGH SOCIETY, TROUBLE SMITES A PEER OF THE REALM AND HIS STAND-IN UNTIL THAT PEERLESS PUNCHING PAIR, THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, PENETRATE THE MYSTERY OF...

"HIS LORDSHIP'S DOUBLE!"



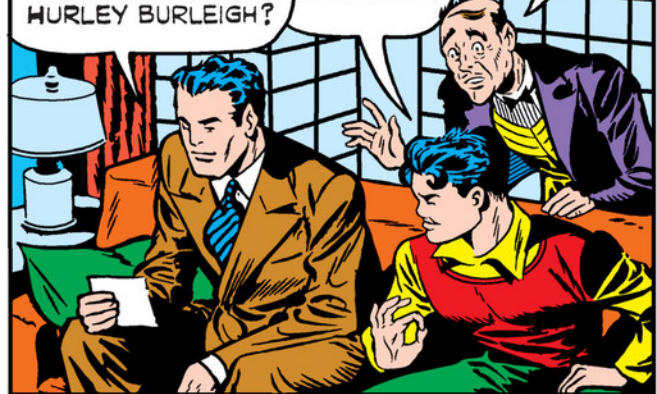
THE MAILS BRING AN EMBOSSED INVITATION TO SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE—A SIMPLE WHITE CARD— BUT WHAT A TANGLED TRAIL IS DESTINED TO FOLLOW IN ITS WAKE!



I SUPPOSE I SHOULD GO, SINCE IT'S A USO BENEFIT AFFAIR. BUT WHO AND WHAT IS LORD DAVID HURLEY BURLEIGH?

PROBABLY SOME ULTRA-SMART SOCIAL LION WITH A MONOCLE?

OH, NO, SIR— IF I MAY BE PERMITTED TO INTRUDE A WORD...



WHILE LACKING AN ACQUAINTANCE WITH HIS LORDSHIP MYSELF, MY SECOND COUSIN, THEOBALD, HAVING BEEN EMPLOYED AS GARDENER AT HIS LORDSHIP'S MANOR NEAR LONDON, OFTEN SPOKE OF HIM AS A MAN OF SCIENCE!



I BELIEVE BOTANY WAS HIS CHIEF PASSION, SIR! HE MIGHT EVEN BE CALLED A BIT OF A RECLUSE, MR. WAYNE! BUT I SUPPOSE YOU'LL BE MEETING HIM AT THE BAZAAR TOMORROW NIGHT, AND I WAS WONDERING...

YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE THE EVENING OFF? BY ALL MEANS, ALFRED!



I CAN'T GET OVER ALFRED'S NEW STREAM-LINED FORM AND THAT MISPLACED EYEBROW ON HIS UPPER LIP! *

IT'S GETTING RATHER LATE, DICK! IF YOU'RE COMING TO THE BAZAAR WITH ME TOMORROW EVENING, YOU'LL NEED LOTS OF REST TONIGHT!



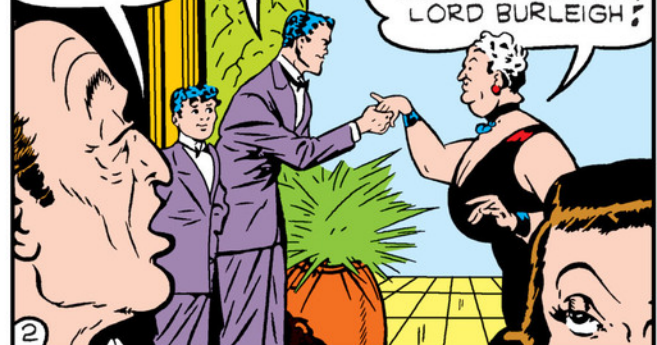
* ED. NOTE: ARE YOU SURPRISED AT THE NEW ALFRED? READ JANUARY DETECTIVE COMICS, TO LEARN ABOUT HIS AMAZING TRANSFORMATION!

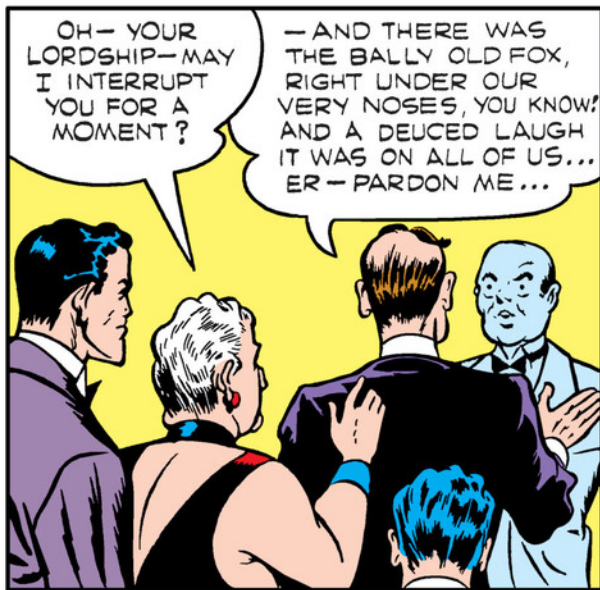
SO—THE NEXT EVENING, OUR FRIENDS PRESENT THEMSELVES AT THE PALATIAL HOME OF THE C.L.J. CARRUTHERS...

MR. BRUCE WAYNE AND MRS. CARRUTHERS!

GOOD EVENING, MRS. CARRUTHERS! IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

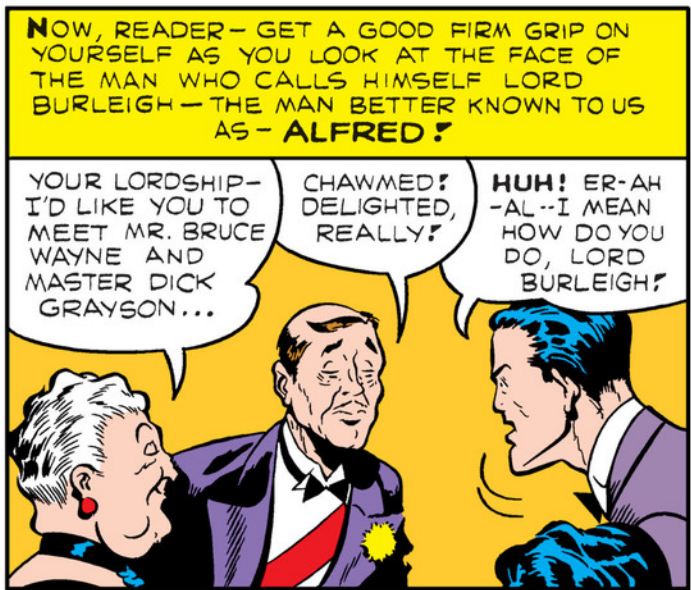
BRUCE—I'M SO GLAD YOU CAME! BUT COME—YOU MUST MEET OUR GUEST OF HONOR, LORD BURLEIGH!





OH— YOUR LORDSHIP—MAY I INTERRUPT YOU FOR A MOMENT?

—AND THERE WAS THE BALLY OLD FOX, RIGHT UNDER OUR VERY NOSES, YOU KNOW? AND A DEUCED LAUGH IT WAS ON ALL OF US... ER—PARDON ME...



NOW, READER—GET A GOOD FIRM GRIP ON YOURSELF AS YOU LOOK AT THE FACE OF THE MAN WHO CALLS HIMSELF LORD BURLEIGH—THE MAN BETTER KNOWN TO US AS—**ALFRED**!

YOUR LORDSHIP—I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MR. BRUCE WAYNE AND MASTER DICK GRAYSON...

CHAWMED? DELIGHTED, REALLY?

HUH! ER-AH -AL--I MEAN HOW DO YOU DO, LORD BURLEIGH?



WITH IMPERTURBABLE APLOMB, ALFRED ACCORDS NOT AN IOTA OF RECOGNITION TO HIS STARTLED EMPLOYERS...

ALFRED—? WHAT IN THE NAME OF ALL THAT'S WEIRD IS THIS ABOUT?

I BEG YOUR PARDON, MR. WAYNE? THE NAME IS BURLEIGH? LORD DAVID HURLEY BURLEIGH, EARL OF LANDBURY AND DARBY, NOT TO MENTION KNIGHT OF THE GARTER, THE BATH, AND PEER OF THE REALM?



WELL, KNOCK ME DIZZY WITH A DOILY? THE NERVE OF HIM?

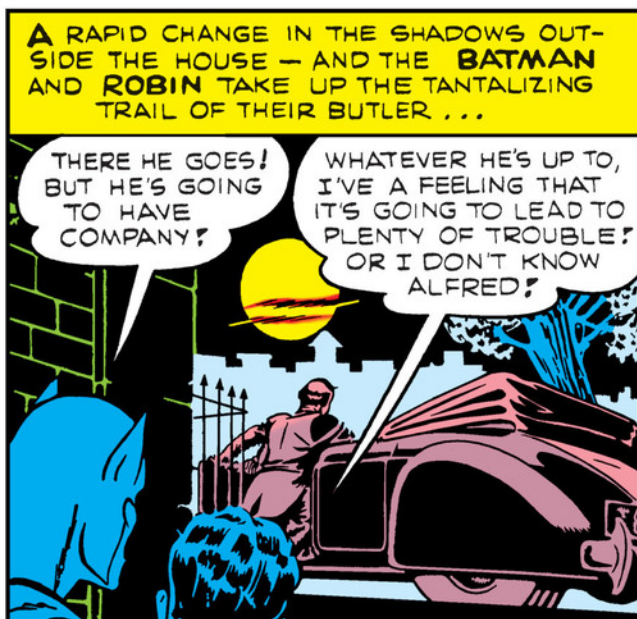
NERVE DOESN'T EVEN BEGIN TO DESCRIBE IT? THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE WIND, DICK? WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP A CAREFUL EYE ON OUR TITLED BUTLER?



LATER THAT EVENING...

LOOK—HE'S SAYING GOOD-NIGHT TO OUR HOSTESS! HE'S LEAVING!

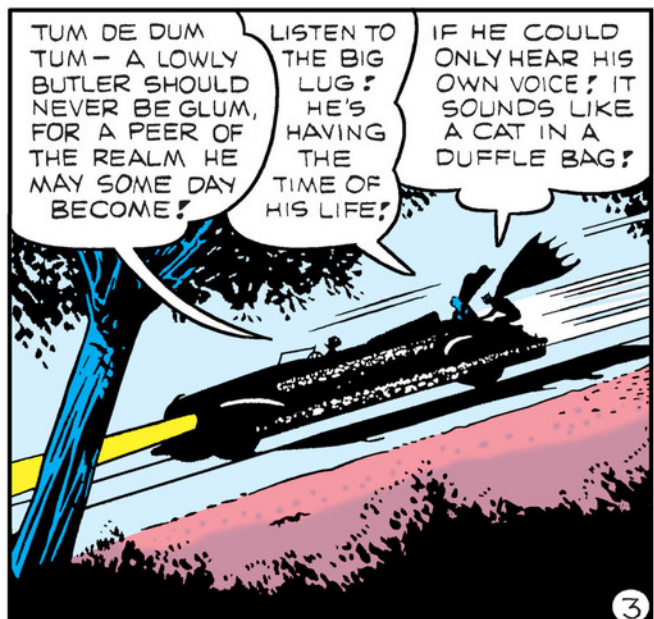
SO HE IS? AND WE'RE LEAVING RIGHT AFTER HIM? PERHAPS THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** CAN GET TO THE BOTTOM OF ALFRED'S MYSTERIOUS MASQUERADE?



A RAPID CHANGE IN THE SHADOWS OUTSIDE THE HOUSE—AND THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** TAKE UP THE TANTALIZING TRAIL OF THEIR BUTLER...

THERE HE GOES! BUT HE'S GOING TO HAVE COMPANY?

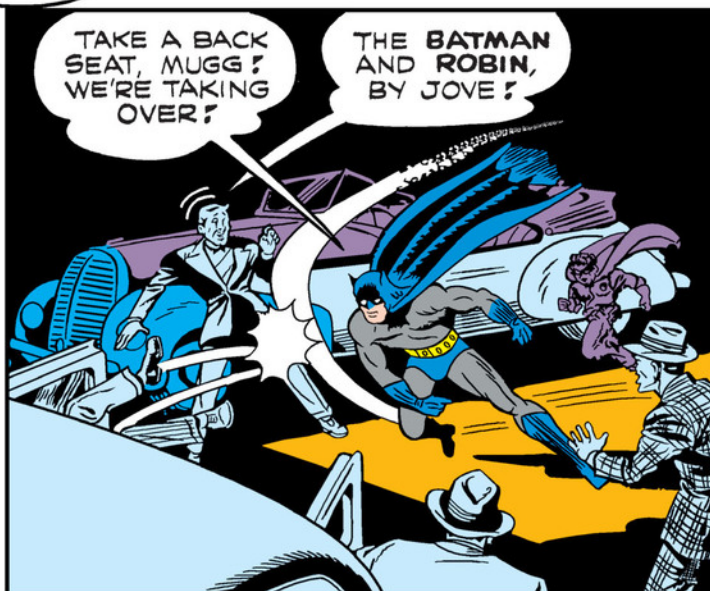
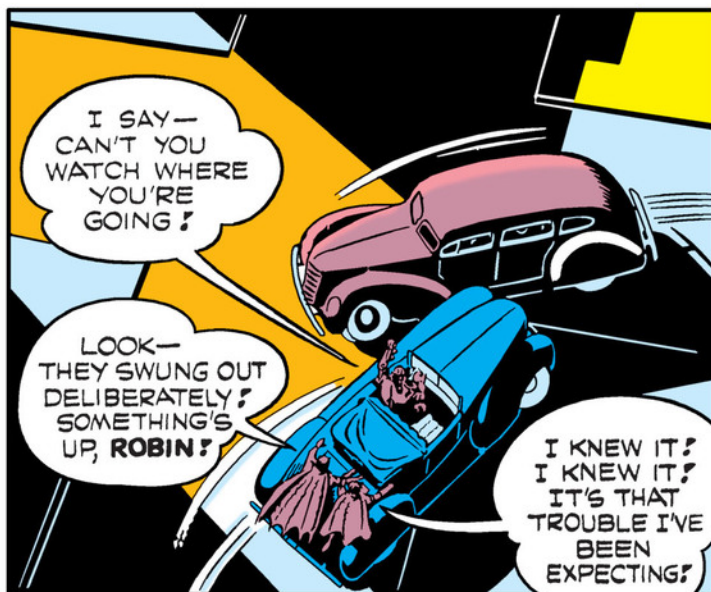
WHATEVER HE'S UP TO, I'VE A FEELING THAT IT'S GOING TO LEAD TO PLENTY OF TROUBLE? OR I DON'T KNOW ALFRED?



TUM DE DUM TUM—A LOWLY BUTLER SHOULD NEVER BE GLUM, FOR A PEER OF THE REALM HE MAY SOME DAY BECOME?

LISTEN TO THE BIG LUG? HE'S HAVING THE TIME OF HIS LIFE?

IF HE COULD ONLY HEAR HIS OWN VOICE? IT SOUNDS LIKE A CAT IN A DUFFLE BAG?



MIGHTY MUSCLES SOON SUBDUDE THE MISGUIDED MUGGS...

AND NOW THAT WE'VE TAKEN CARE OF THEM, HOW ABOUT DOING A LITTLE EXPLAINING, ALFRED? OR—SHOULD I ADDRESS YOU AS "YOUR LORDSHIP?"

REALLY, SIR—THIS ATTACK PUZZLES ME! AS FOR THE TITLE, IT CAME ABOUT THIS WAY...



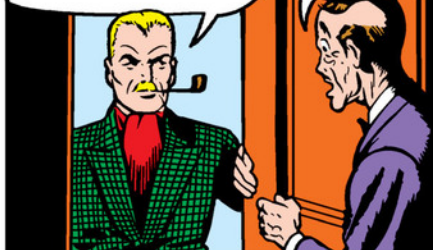
AS I REMARKED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, MY COUSIN THEOBALD HAPPENS TO BE LORD BURLEIGH'S GARDENER! THINKING TO GET WORD TO HIM, I CALLED AT HIS LORDSHIP'S THIS EVENING! AT FIRST, I WAS REFUSED ADMITTANCE, BUT—



"—UPON HEARING MY DISTINCTLY BRITISH ACCENT, I WAS ADMITTED BY LORD BURLEIGH HIMSELF—"

HATE REPORTERS PRYING ABOUT, Y'KNOW! BUT YOUR ACCENT MADE ME REALIZE YOU'RE FROM THE AGENCY...

BUT YOUR LORDSHIP, I—



GUESS YOU'LL DO, ALL RIGHT! NOW—HERE'S WHAT'S EXPECTED! I CAN'T ABIDE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS! YOU'RE TO BE **ME** AT THE CARRUTHERS BAZAAR! THEY KNOW MY FATHER WELL, BUT THEY'VE NEVER MET ME—

BUT—



CAN'T GRACEFULLY BEG OUT, BUT SINCE THEY WON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE AND I'M STAYING IN THE STATES ONLY A FEW DAYS, I'VE DECIDED TO SEND A SUBSTITUTE! SO TONIGHT, YOU'LL PLAY LORD BURLEIGH! RETURN HERE AT MIDNIGHT FOR YOUR PAY!



I REALIZED, OF COURSE, THAT HIS LORDSHIP HAD MISTAKEN ME FOR AN ENGLISH ACTOR SENT BY AN AGENCY, BUT A SPIRIT OF PRANKISHNESS IMPELLED ME TO GO THROUGH WITH IT, SIR! A JOLLY IDEA, MY BEING A PEER FOR A NIGHT, DON'T YOU THINK?

IT CERTAINLY SOUNDS IN CHARACTER !!

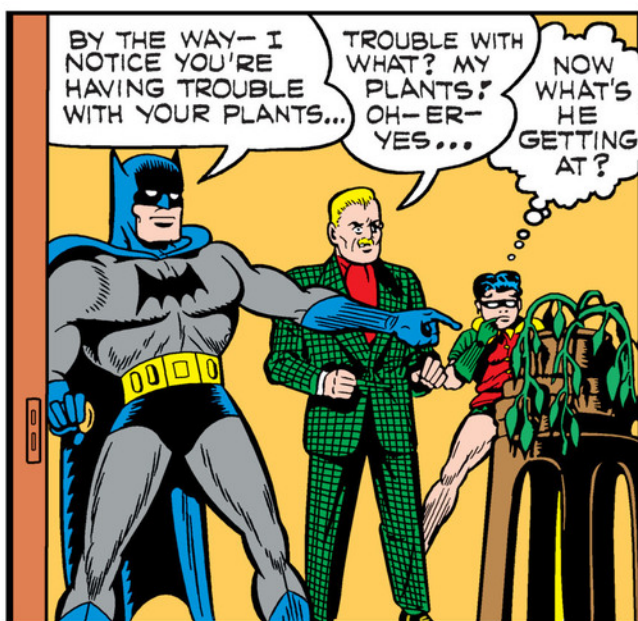
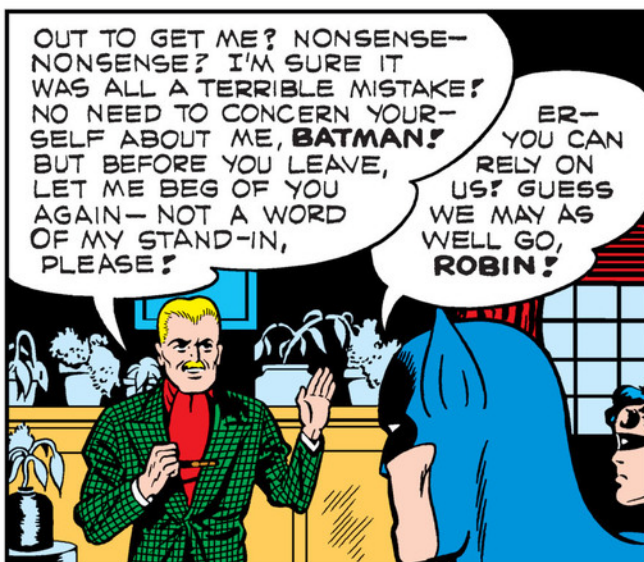
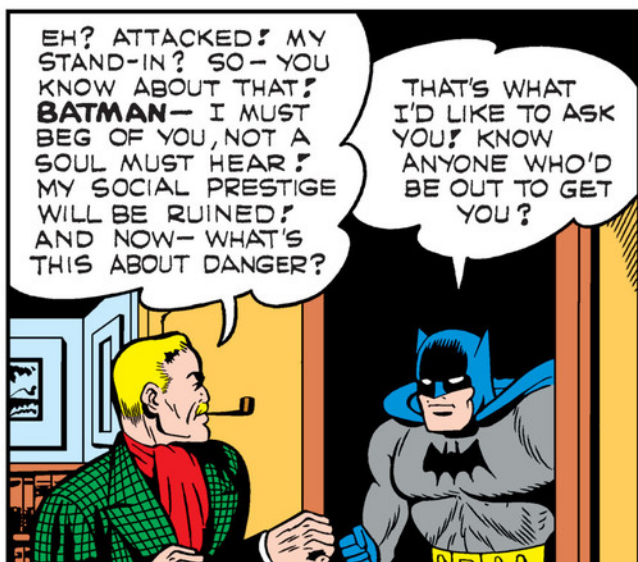
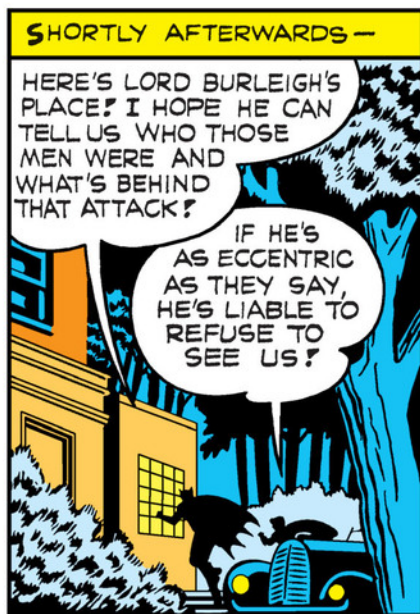


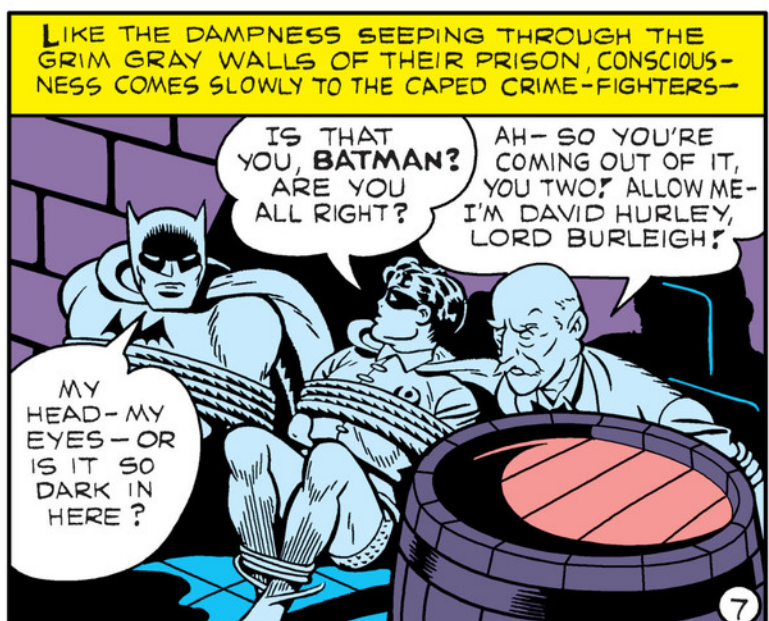
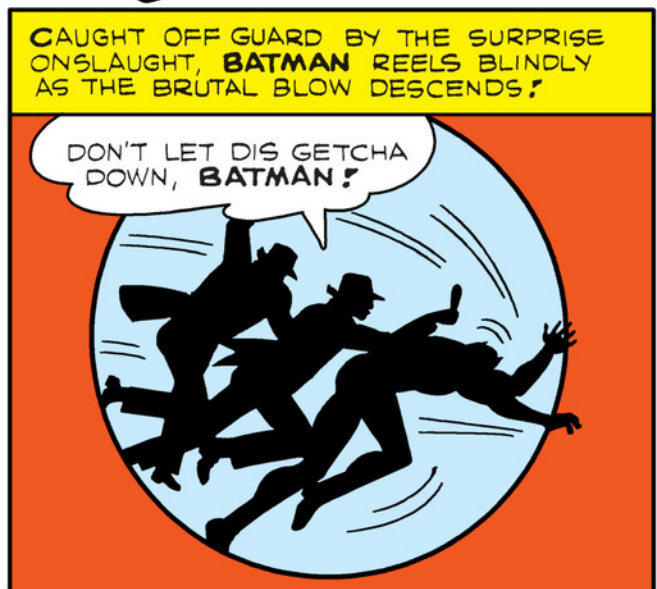
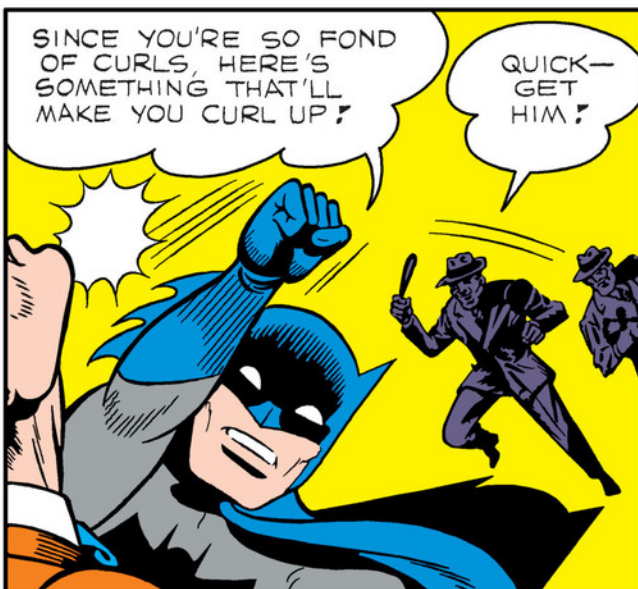
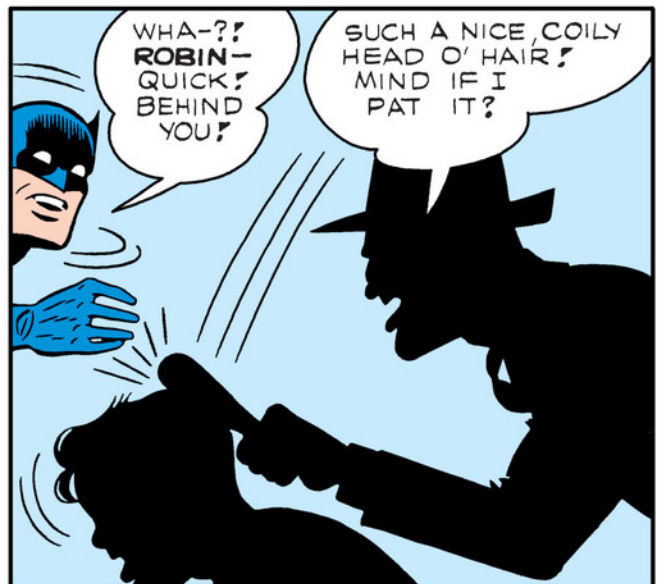
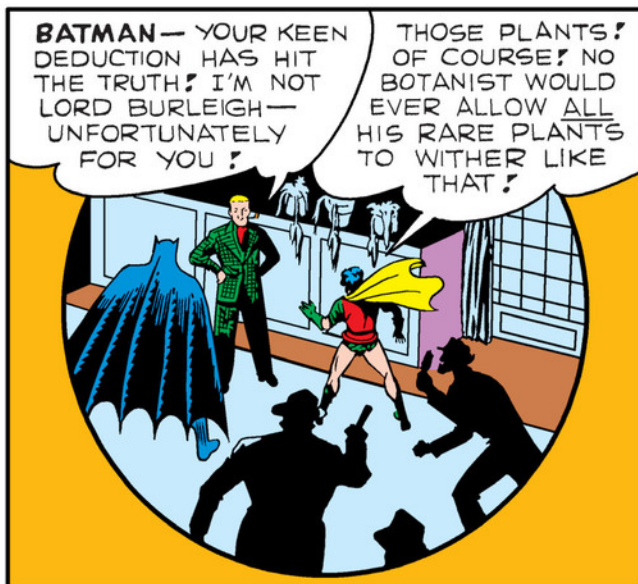
YOU SEE, SIR—LORD BURLEIGH ALWAYS WAS KNOWN AS ECCENTRIC! NEVER EVEN ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED!

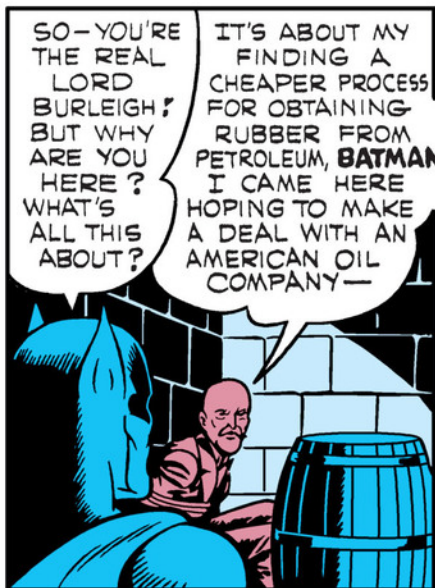
BUT THIS ATTACK! IT MUST HAVE BEEN MEANT FOR LORD BURLEIGH! SUPPOSE WE FIND OUT FROM—

YOU'LL NEVER GET A WORD OUT OF US, **BATMAN!**



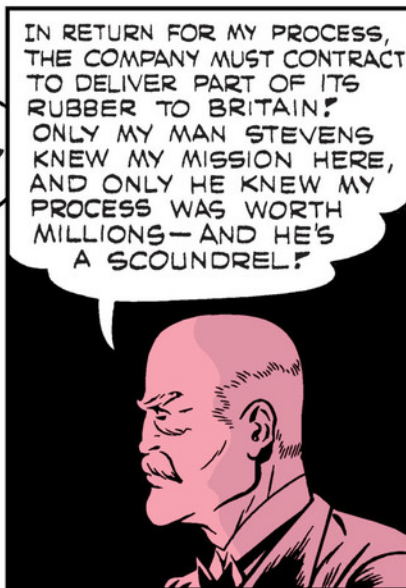




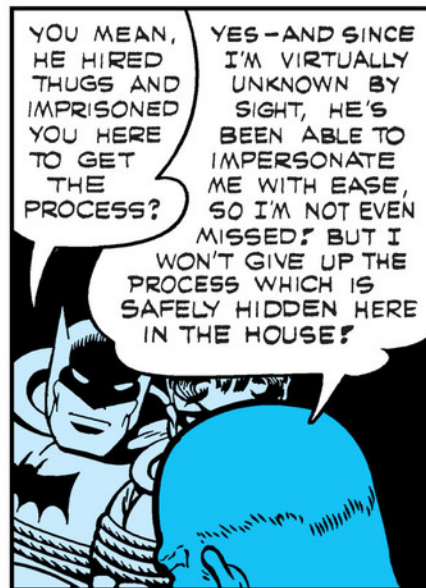


SO—YOU'RE THE REAL LORD BURLEIGH? BUT WHY ARE YOU HERE? WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?

IT'S ABOUT MY FINDING A CHEAPER PROCESS FOR OBTAINING RUBBER FROM PETROLEUM, **BATMAN!** I CAME HERE HOPING TO MAKE A DEAL WITH AN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY—

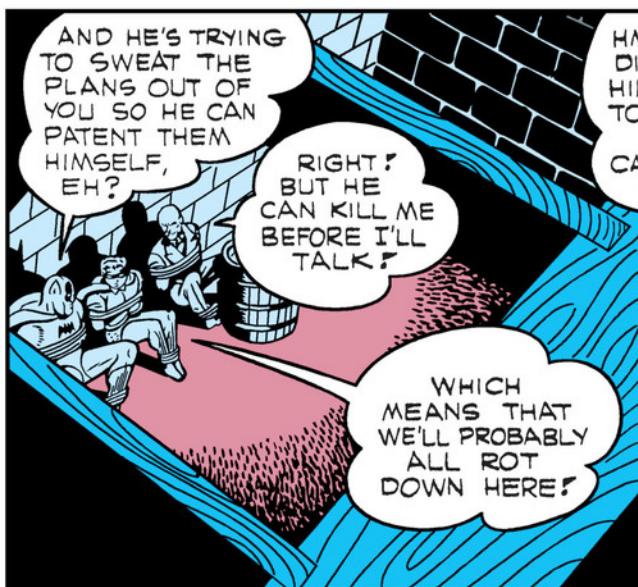


IN RETURN FOR MY PROCESS, THE COMPANY MUST CONTRACT TO DELIVER PART OF ITS RUBBER TO BRITAIN! ONLY MY MAN STEVENS KNEW MY MISSION HERE, AND ONLY HE KNEW MY PROCESS WAS WORTH MILLIONS—AND HE'S A SCOUNDREL!



YOU MEAN, HE HIRED THUGS AND IMPRISONED YOU HERE TO GET THE PROCESS?

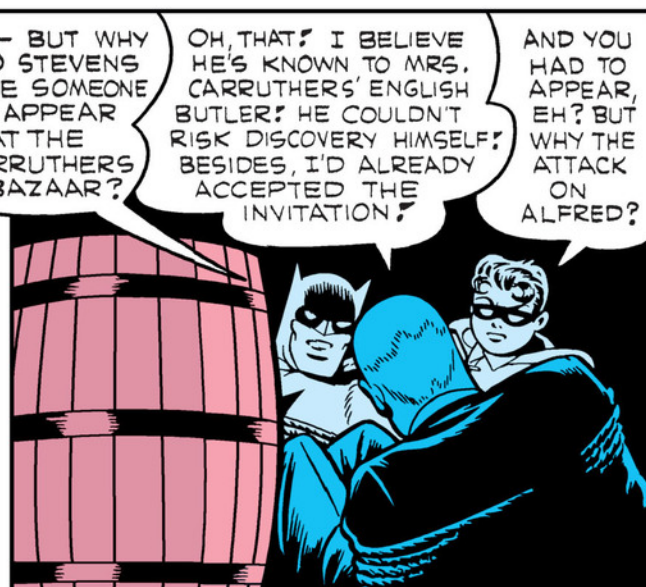
YES—AND SINCE I'M VIRTUALLY UNKNOWN BY SIGHT, HE'S BEEN ABLE TO IMPERSONATE ME WITH EASE, SO I'M NOT EVEN MISSED! BUT I WON'T GIVE UP THE PROCESS WHICH IS SAFELY HIDDEN HERE IN THE HOUSE!



AND HE'S TRYING TO SWEAT THE PLANS OUT OF YOU SO HE CAN PATENT THEM HIMSELF, EH?

RIGHT! BUT HE CAN KILL ME BEFORE I'LL TALK!

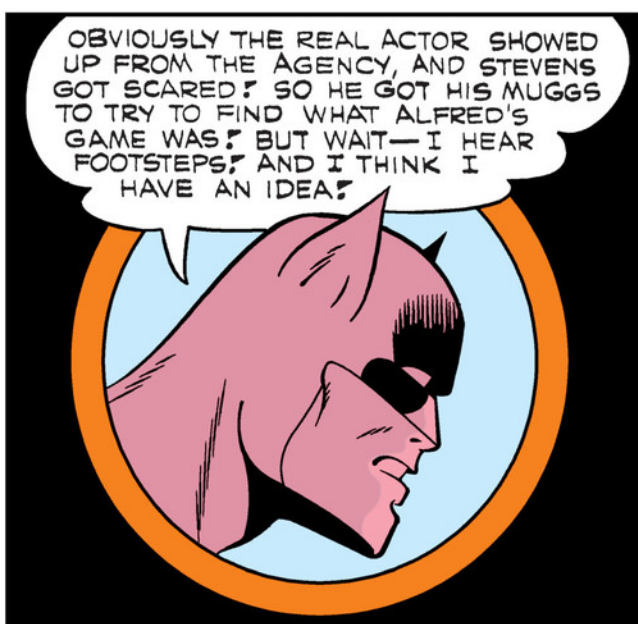
WHICH MEANS THAT WE'LL PROBABLY ALL ROT DOWN HERE!



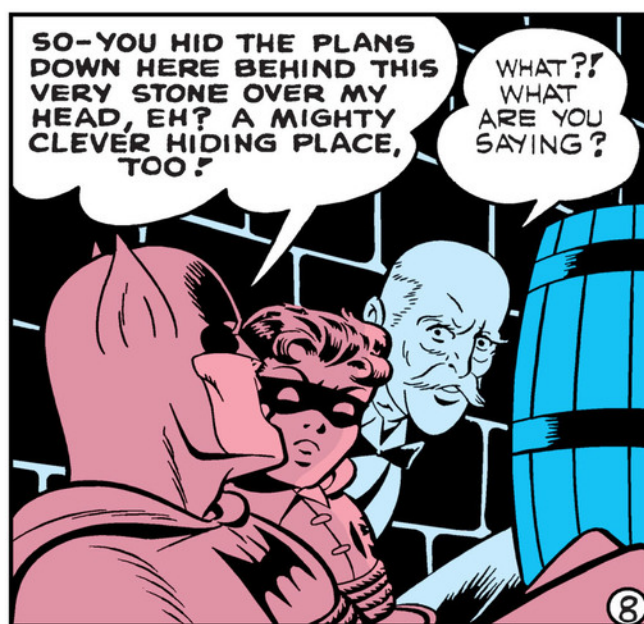
HM— BUT WHY DID STEVENS HIRE SOMEONE TO APPEAR AT THE CARRUTHERS BAZAAR?

OH, THAT! I BELIEVE HE'S KNOWN TO MRS. CARRUTHERS' ENGLISH BUTLER! HE COULDN'T RISK DISCOVERY HIMSELF! BESIDES, I'D ALREADY ACCEPTED THE INVITATION!

AND YOU HAD TO APPEAR, EH? BUT WHY THE ATTACK ON ALFRED?



OBVIOUSLY THE REAL ACTOR SHOWED UP FROM THE AGENCY, AND STEVENS GOT SCARED! SO HE GOT HIS MUGGS TO TRY TO FIND WHAT ALFRED'S GAME WAS! BUT WAIT—I HEAR FOOTSTEPS! AND I THINK I HAVE AN IDEA!



SO—YOU HID THE PLANS DOWN HERE BEHIND THIS VERY STONE OVER MY HEAD, EH? A MIGHTY CLEVER HIDING PLACE, TOO!

WHAT?! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

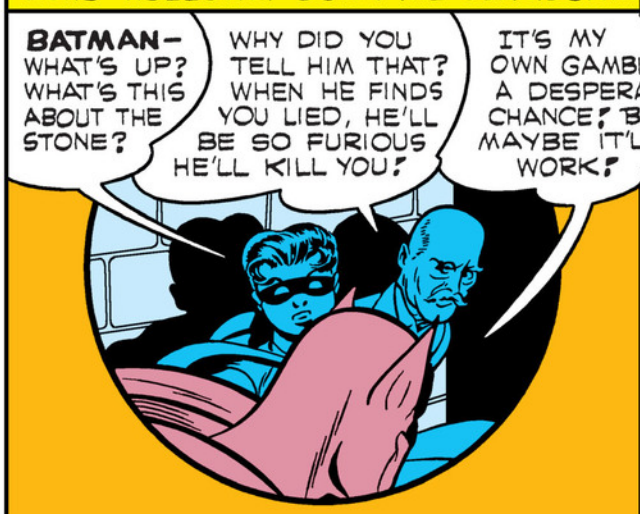
A SUDDEN BEAM OF LIGHT LANCES THROUGH THE GLOOM AS APPROACHING FOOTSTEPS BECOME MORE AUDIBLE...



AND OF COURSE, YOUR LORDSHIP, YOU MANAGED IT WITH YOUR USUAL SKILL AND INGENUITY! NOT A SIGN OF FRESH MORTAR! HOWEVER, ALL I NEED IS A HAMMER AND CHISEL! I'LL BE BACK DIRECTLY!



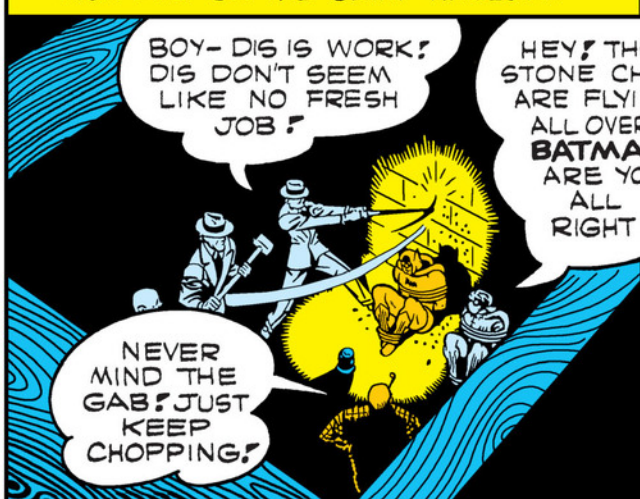
AS STEVEN'S DEPARTING FOOTSTEPS ECHO HOLLOWLY DOWN THE CORRIDOR...



BUT THERE IS NO TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS AS THE HEAVY TREAD OF HURRYING FEET MARKS THE HASTY RETURN OF STEVEN AND HIS HENCHMEN...

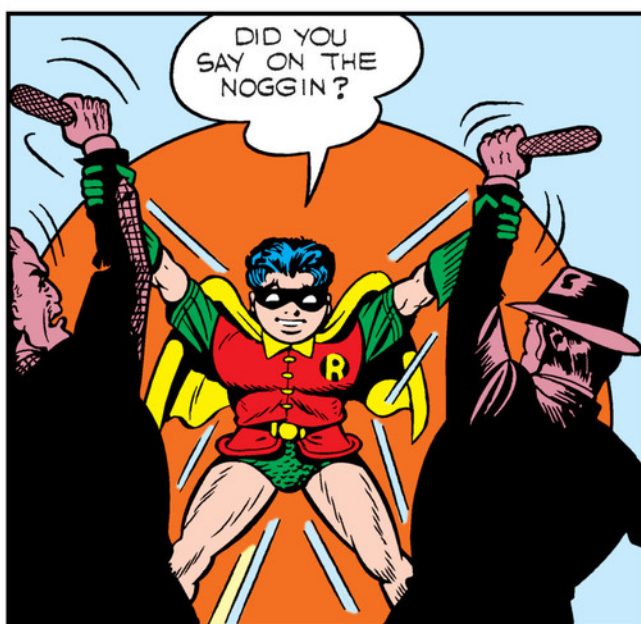
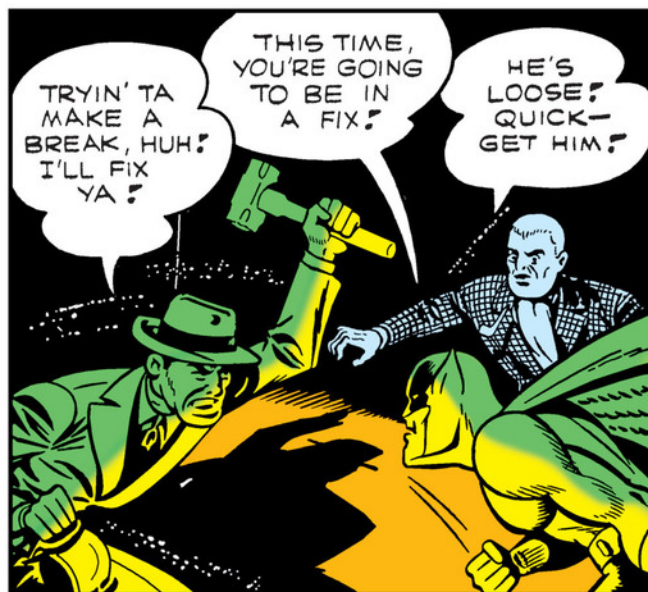
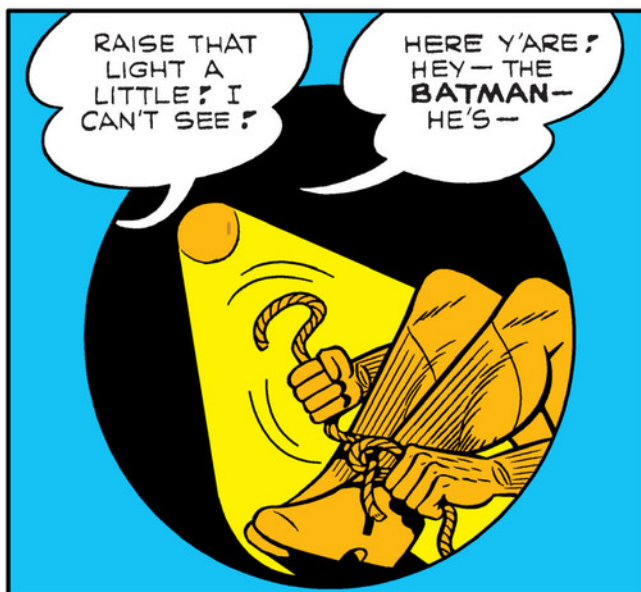


SHARP SLIVERS OF STONE FALL LIKE HAIL ABOUT THE THREE PRISONERS AS THE THUGS WORK WITH CHISEL AND PICK-AXE ON THE SLIMY WALLS...

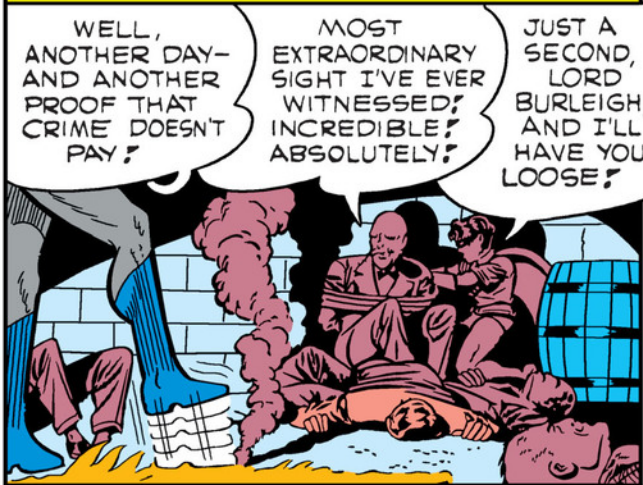


IS THE **BATMAN** ALL RIGHT? HE SEEMS TO BE PRETTY PREOCCUPIED! BUT WAIT—WHAT IS IT HE'S MANAGED TO PICK UP IN HIS BOUND HANDS?

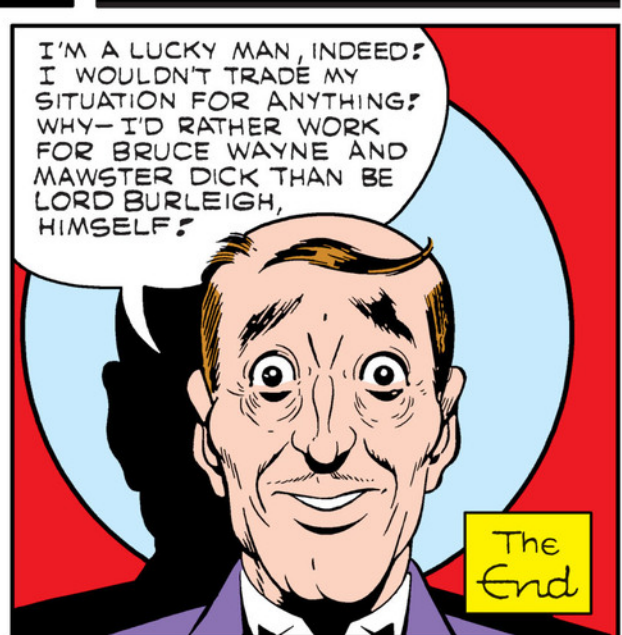
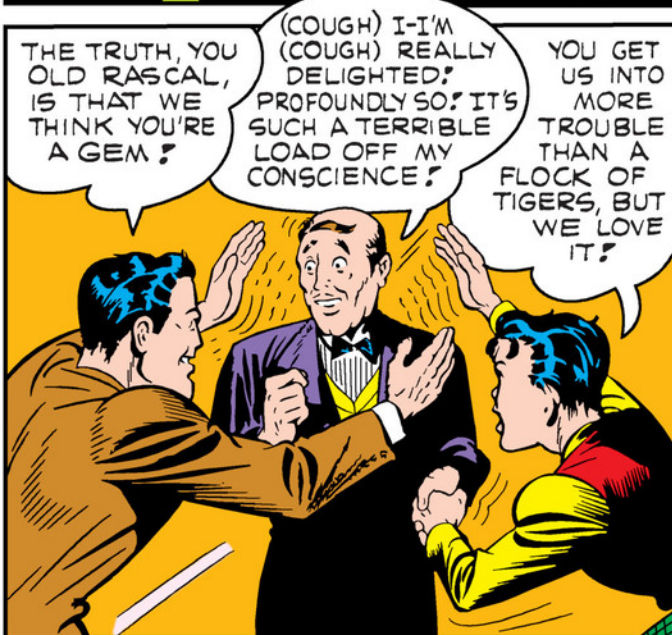
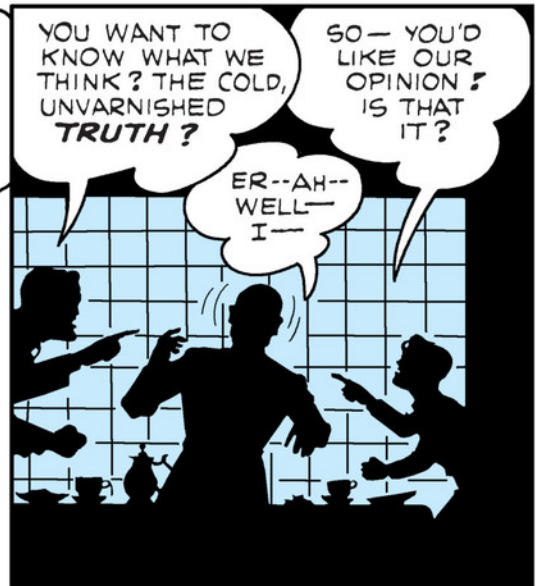
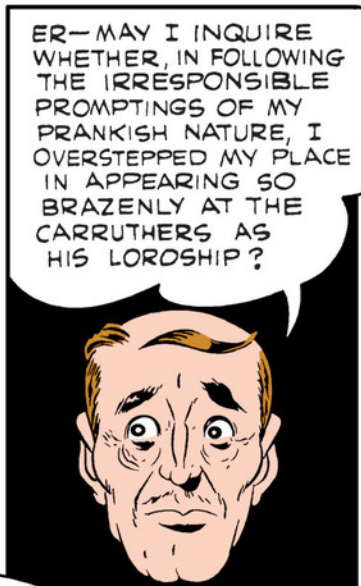
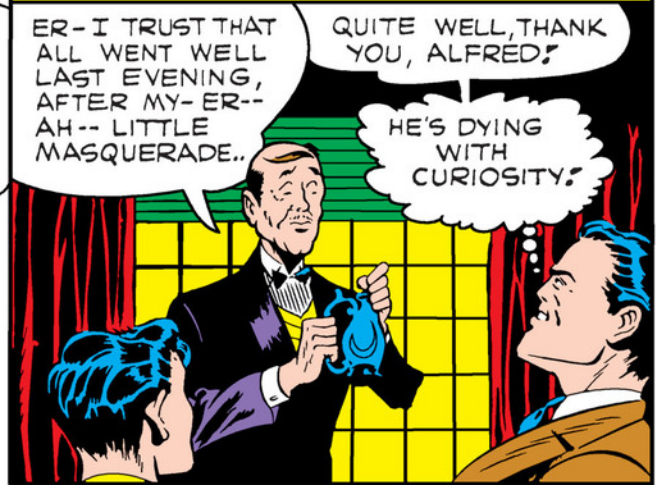




A CRASHING HOLOCAUST OF CRASHING KNUCKLES QUICKLY OVERCOMES CRIMINAL RESISTANCE...



MORNING - AND AT BRUCE WAYNE'S HOME, BREAKFAST IS BEING SERVED TO TWO FATIGUED FIGHTERS...

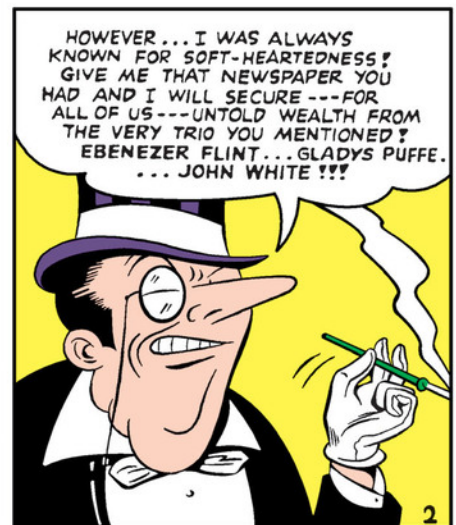
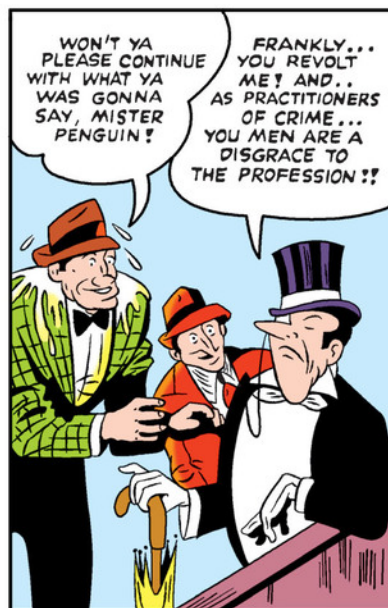


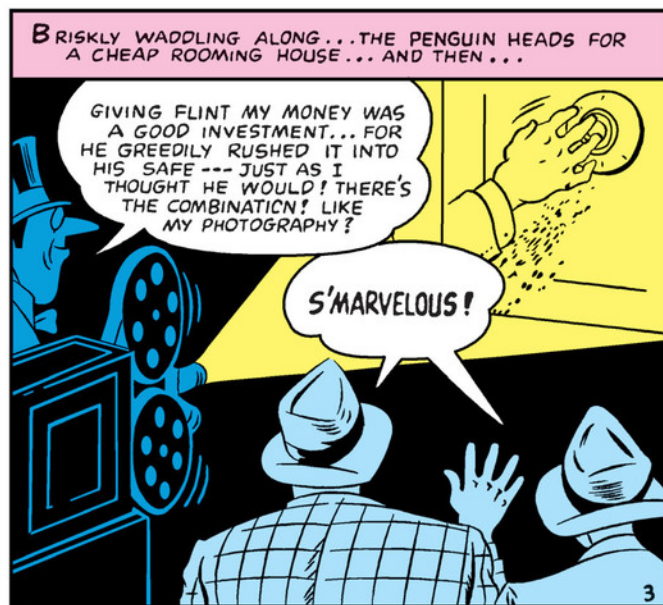
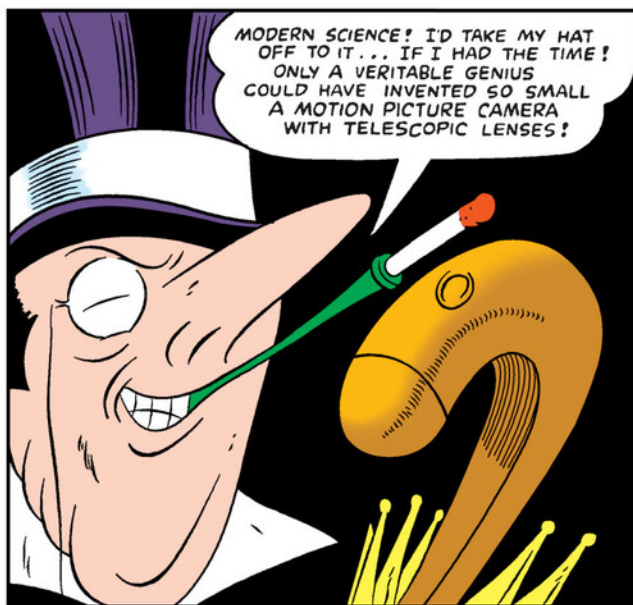
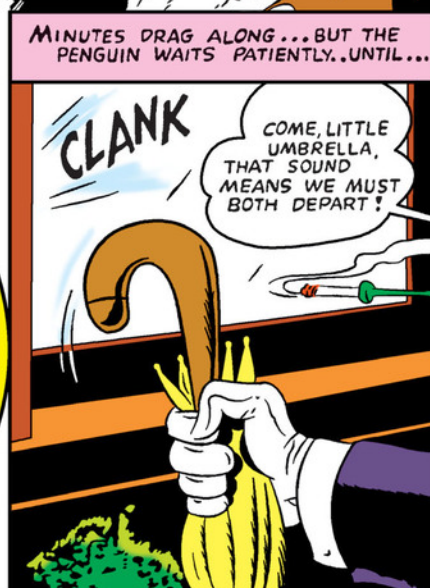
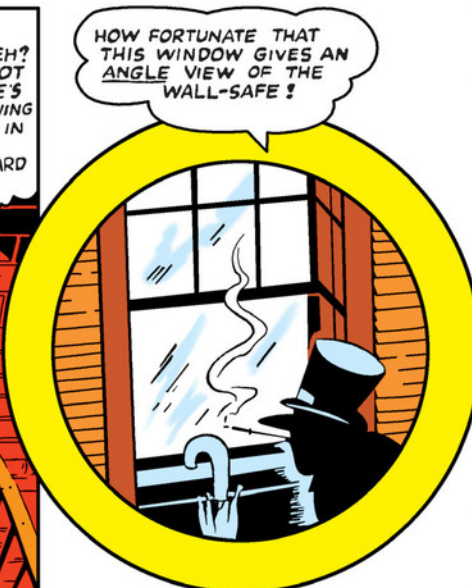
BATMAN

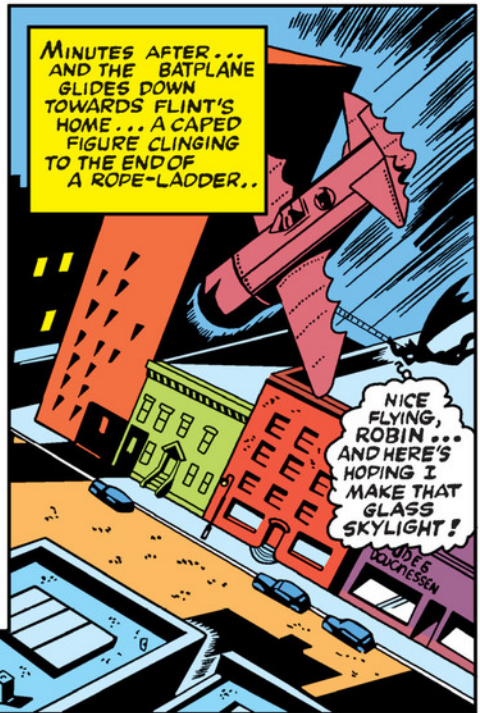
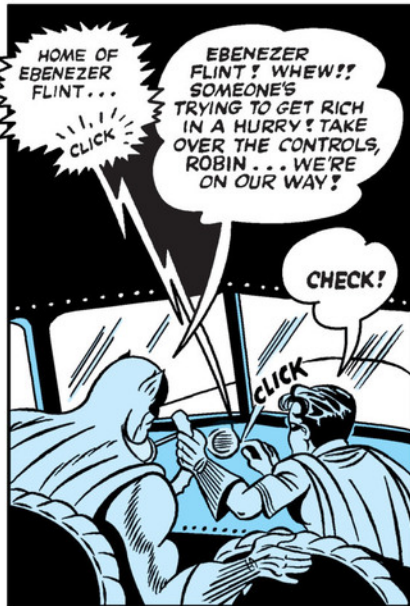
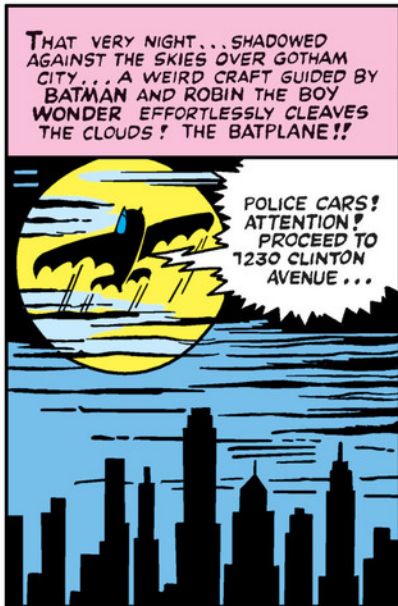
WITH
ROBIN

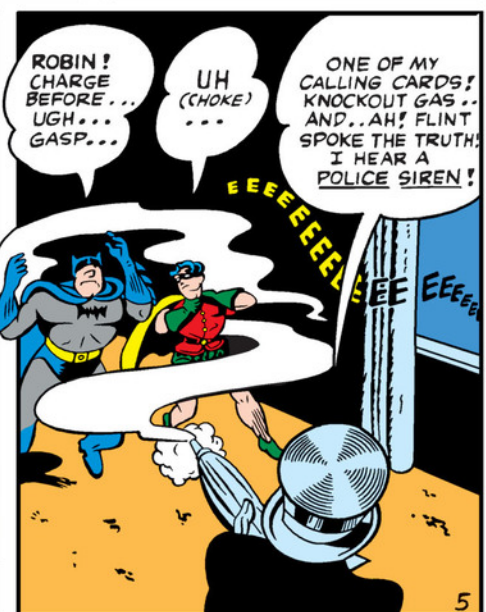
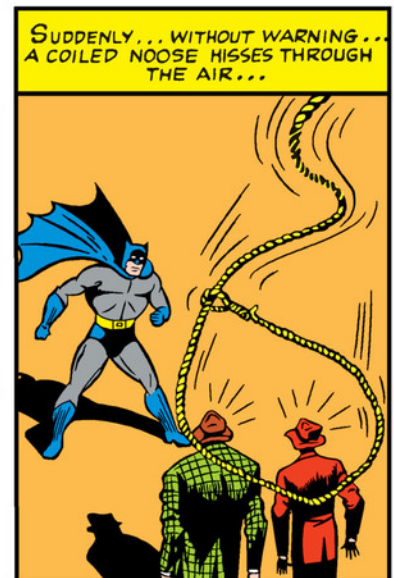
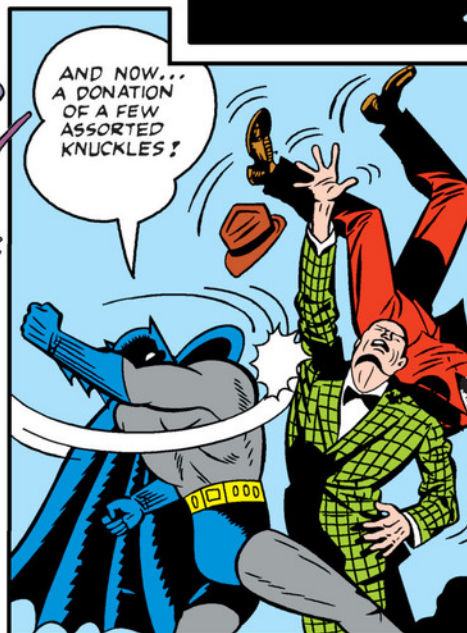
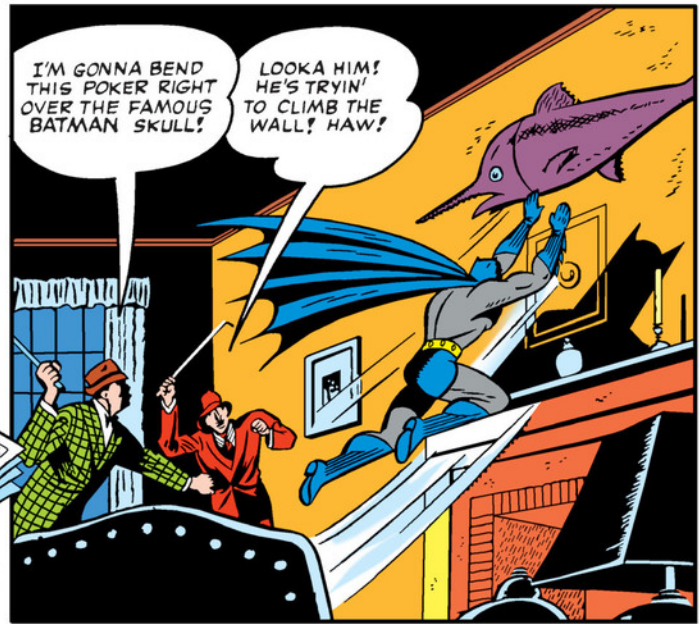
JOE KANE

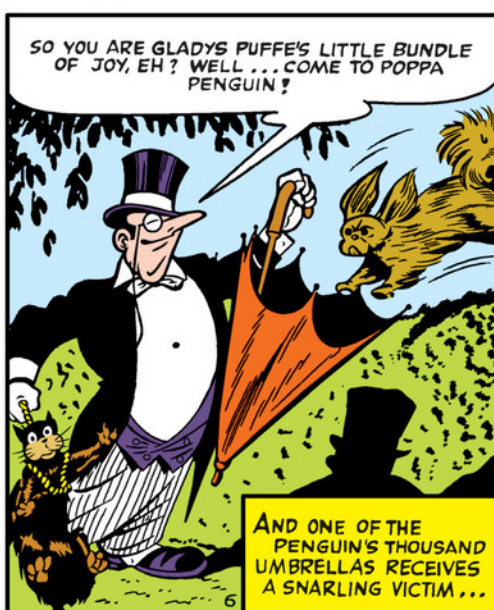
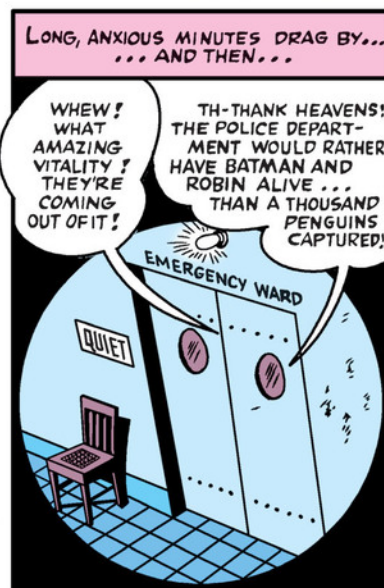


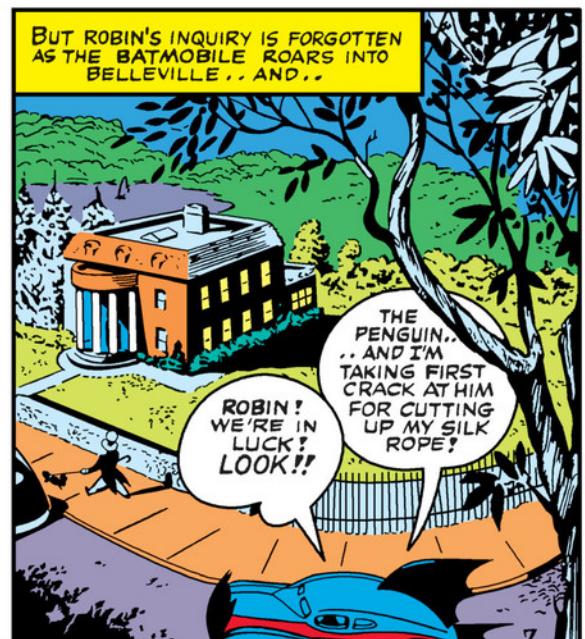
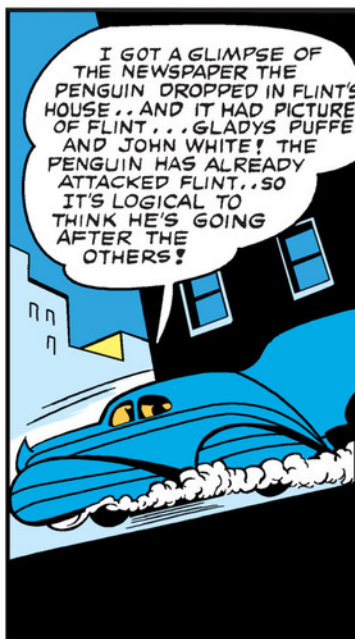
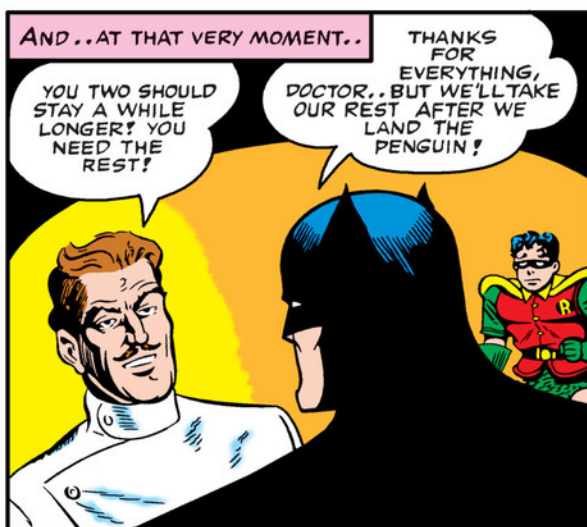
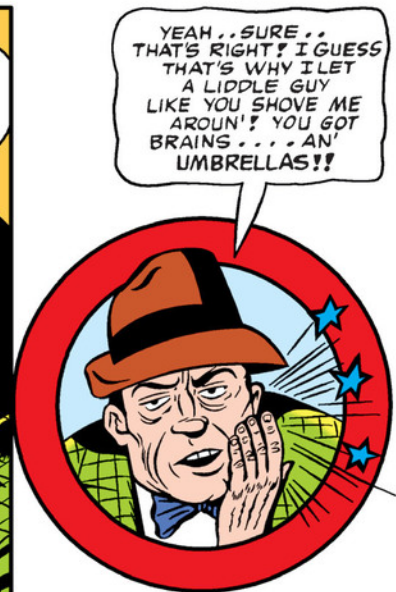


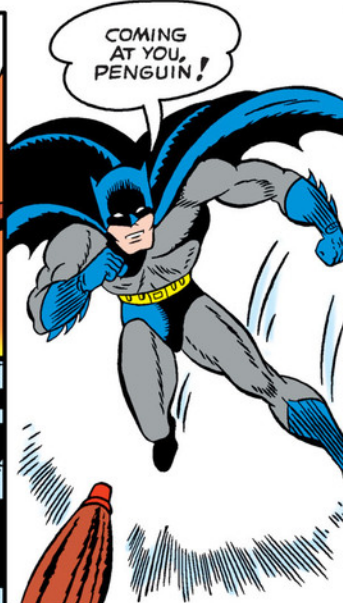
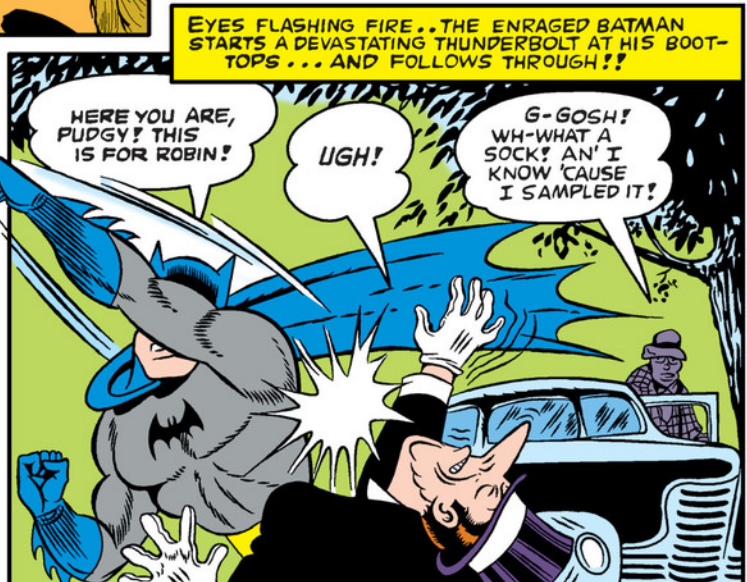
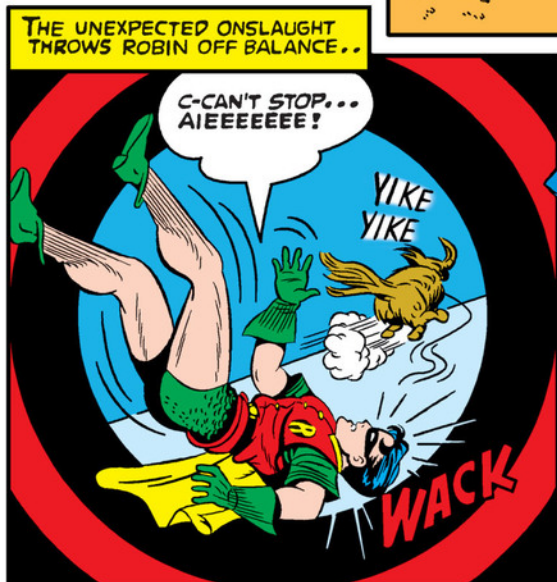
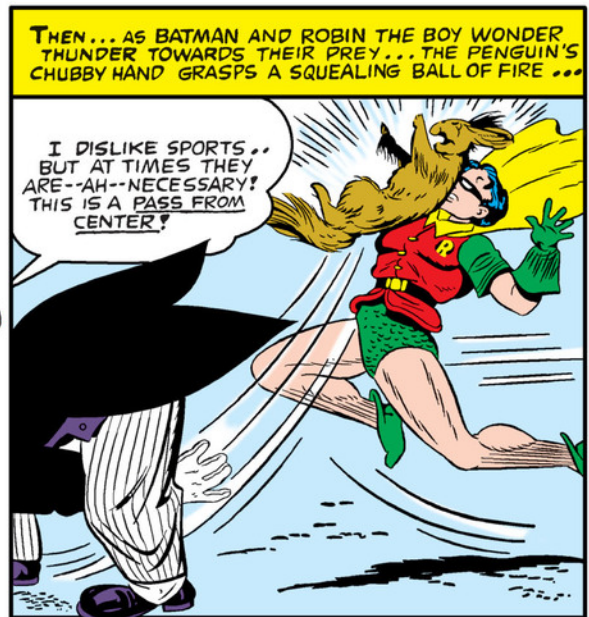
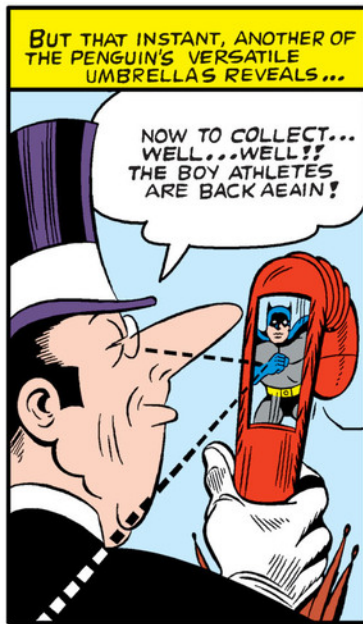


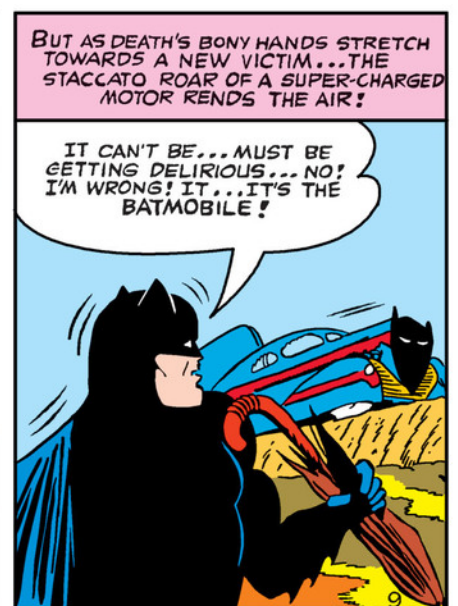
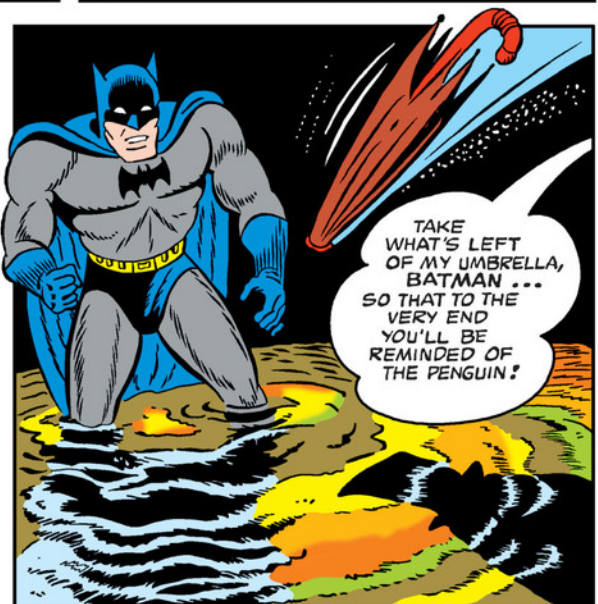
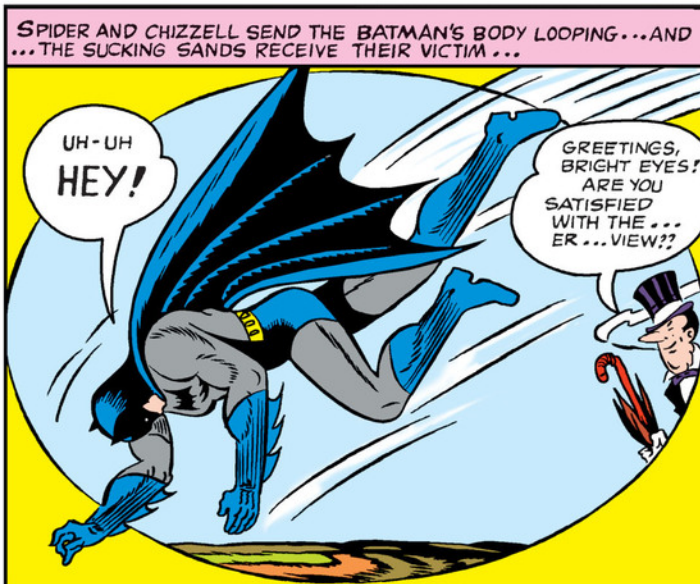
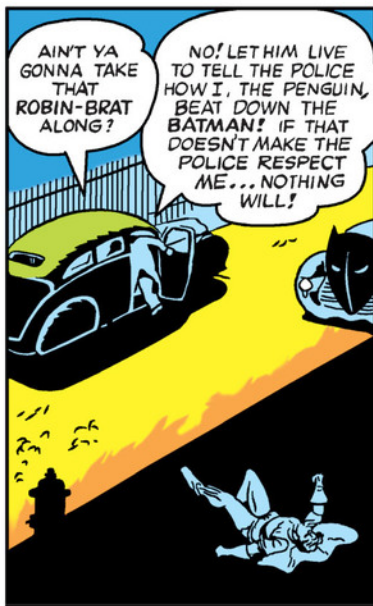


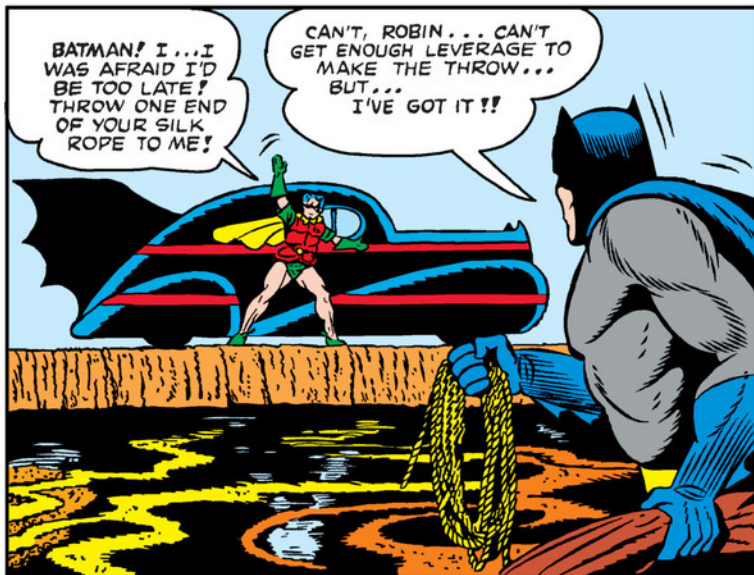






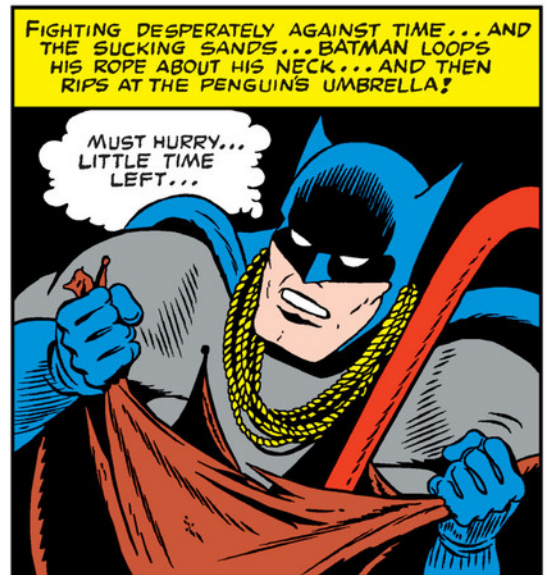






BATMAN! I...I WAS AFRAID I'D BE TOO LATE! THROW ONE END OF YOUR SILK ROPE TO ME!

CAN'T, ROBIN... CAN'T GET ENOUGH LEVERAGE TO MAKE THE THROW... BUT... I'VE GOT IT!!



FIGHTING DESPERATELY AGAINST TIME... AND THE SUCKING SANDS... BATMAN LOOPS HIS ROPE ABOUT HIS NECK... AND THEN RIPS AT THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA!

MUST HURRY... LITTLE TIME LEFT...



IF I DIE IT'LL BE THE PENGUIN'S DOING... AND IF I LIVE... I'LL HAVE TO THANK THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA!

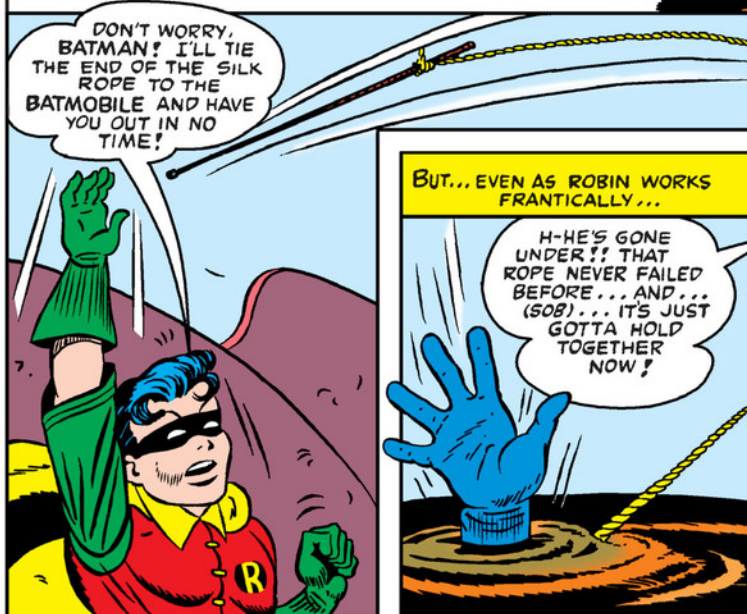
FRENZIED FINGERS TIE A STRIP OF UMBRELLA CLOTH TO EITHER END OF A METAL UMBRELLA-RIB!

SAND'S COMING HIGHER... MUST WORK... FASTER...



BATMAN! P-PLEASE HURRY!

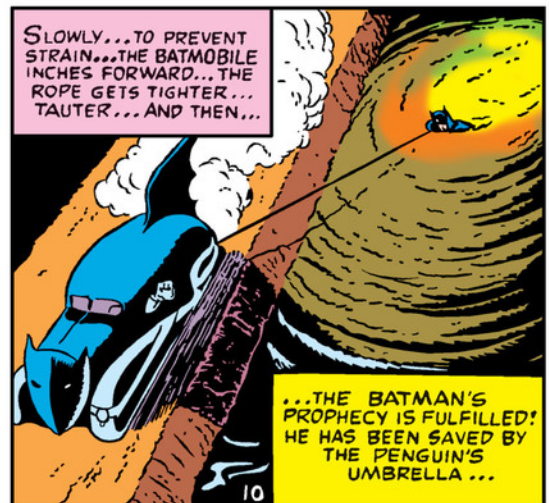
FINGERS FAIRLY RACING... THE BATMAN COILS HIS SILKEN ROPE UNDER HIS ARM-PITS... TIES AN END OF THE TREMENDOUSLY STRONG MATERIAL TO A SLIM UMBRELLA RIB... AND...



DON'T WORRY, BATMAN! I'LL TIE THE END OF THE SILK ROPE TO THE BATMOBILE AND HAVE YOU OUT IN NO TIME!

BUT... EVEN AS ROBIN WORKS FRANTICALLY...

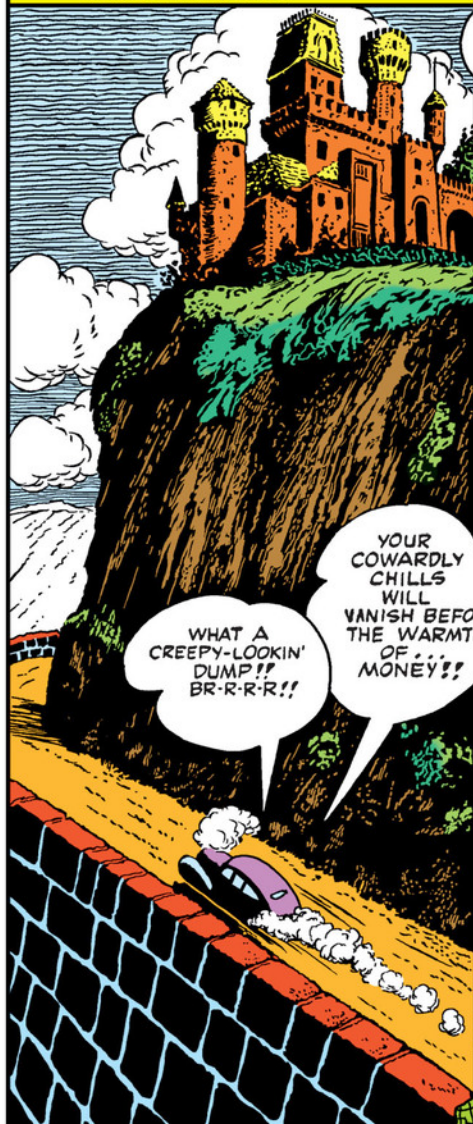
H-HE'S GONE UNDER!! THAT ROPE NEVER FAILED BEFORE... AND... (SOB)... IT'S JUST GOTTA HOLD TOGETHER NOW!



SLOWLY... TO PREVENT STRAIN... THE BATMOBILE INCHES FORWARD... THE ROPE GETS TIGHTER... TAUTER... AND THEN...

...THE BATMAN'S PROPHECY IS FULFILLED! HE HAS BEEN SAVED BY THE PENGUIN'S UMBRELLA...

TWO DAYS LATER... A CAR TOILS UP A STEEP INCLINE... TO THE CASTLE-HOME OF... JOHN WHITE ??



WHAT A CREEPY-LOOKIN' DUMP!! BR-R-R-R!!

YOUR COWARDLY CHILLS WILL VANISH BEFORE THE WARMTH OF... MONEY!!



M-MISTER PENGUIN! THE DOOR.. IT'S OPENIN' WITHOUT NO ONE TOUCHIN' IT!

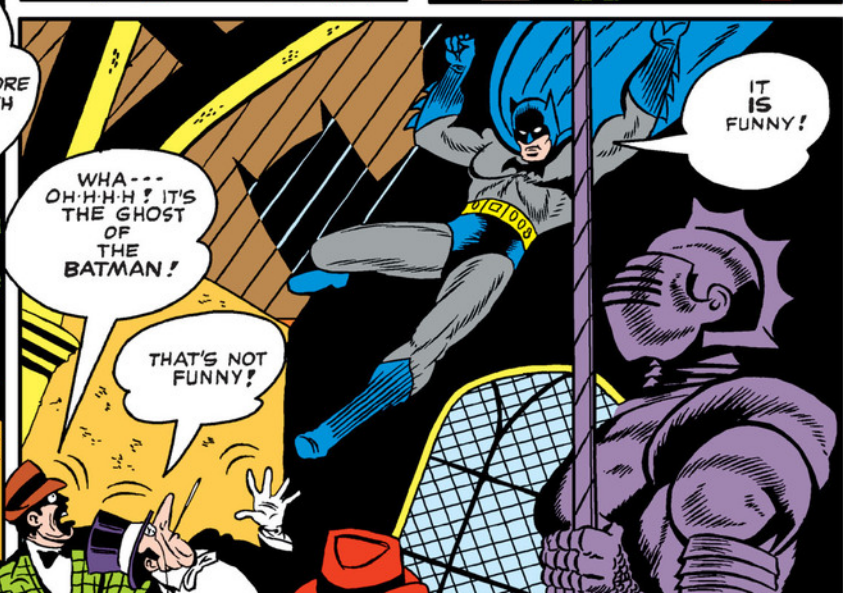
HULKING FOOL! COMPOSE YOURSELF! IT'S CAUSED BY A VAGRANT BREEZE!



D-DID THAT OPEN THE DOOR?

IGNORANT LOU! THAT ARMOR'S AS DEAD AS THE BATMAN!

BOO



WHA-- OH-HHH! IT'S THE GHOST OF THE BATMAN!

THAT'S NOT FUNNY!

IT IS FUNNY!



IN FACT, IT'S SO FUNNY THAT YOU'RE DOUBLED UP WITH LAUGHTER!

BOUUUUF



SPIDER... WE GOTTA BE BRAVE! IF WE DON'T GET THE BATMAN... THE PENGUIN WILL GET US!

BEGONE, VILE VARLETS!



WHO... WHAT... GULP!! A CRAZY CASTLE... THE BATMAN IS ALIVE... AND... AND... THAT DEAD THING WALKS AND TALKS!

STOP JABBERIN'... AN' LET'S USE THESE CHAIRS!!

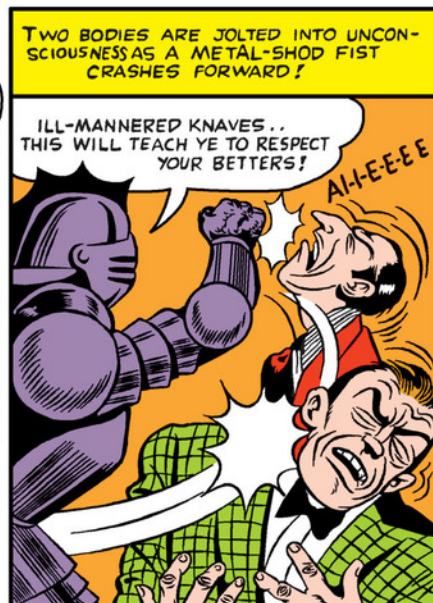


I C-CAN'T HELP JABBERIN'... LOOK!

AWK! THAT... UH... THING... DON'T FEEL NOTHIN'!

HA HA HA HA

AND GRIMLY, IMPLACABLY, THE METAL FIGURE ADVANCES UPON THE TERROR-STRIKEN THUGS!



TWO BODIES ARE JOLTED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS AS A METAL-SHOD FIST CRASHES FORWARD!

ILL-MANNERED KNAVES... THIS WILL TEACH YE TO RESPECT YOUR BETTERS!

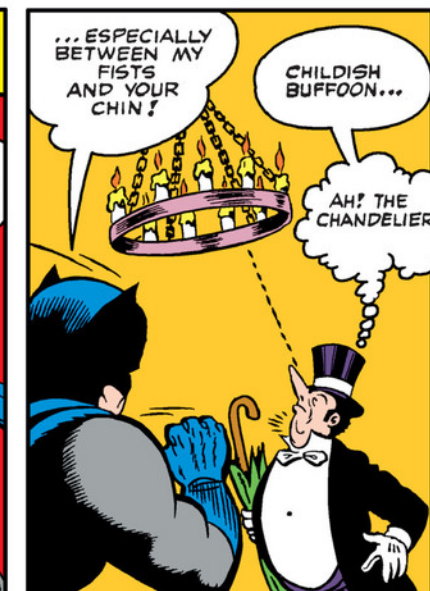
AI-E-E-E-E



MEANWHILE... THE BATMAN HAS BEEN USING HIS OWN FISTS LIKE TWIN PILE-DRIVERS!

STOP! DESIST! UUGGH!

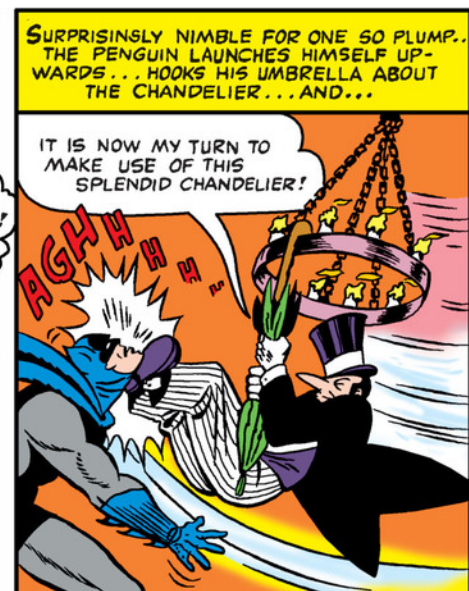
DON'T BREAK UP CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS, PENGUIN...



... ESPECIALLY BETWEEN MY FISTS AND YOUR CHIN!

CHILDISH BUFFOON...

AH! THE CHANDELIER!



SURPRISINGLY NIMBLE FOR ONE SO PLUMP.. THE PENGUIN LAUNCHES HIMSELF UPWARDS... HOOKS HIS UMBRELLA ABOUT THE CHANDELIER... AND...

IT IS NOW MY TURN TO MAKE USE OF THIS SPLENDID CHANDELIER!

AGH H H H



SECONDS LATER...

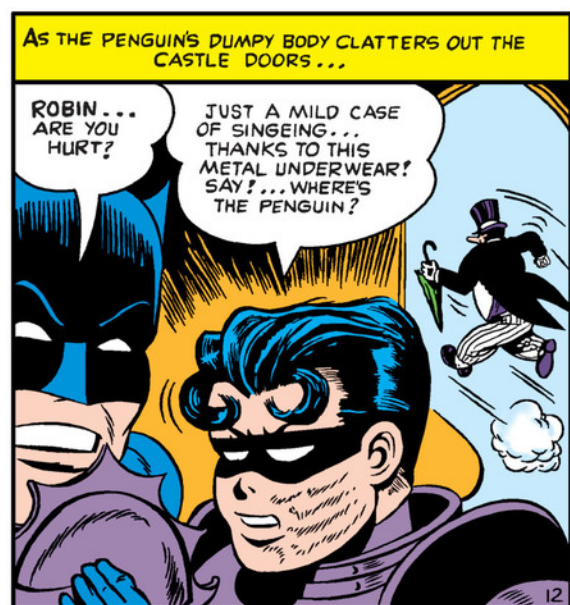
NOW TO... AH! OUR VISITOR FROM THE DIM PAST, EH?

STOUT CHURL... I'LL REND THY LARDED LIMBS APART!



NOT WHILE THE FLAME-THROWER IS IN MY UMBRELLA!

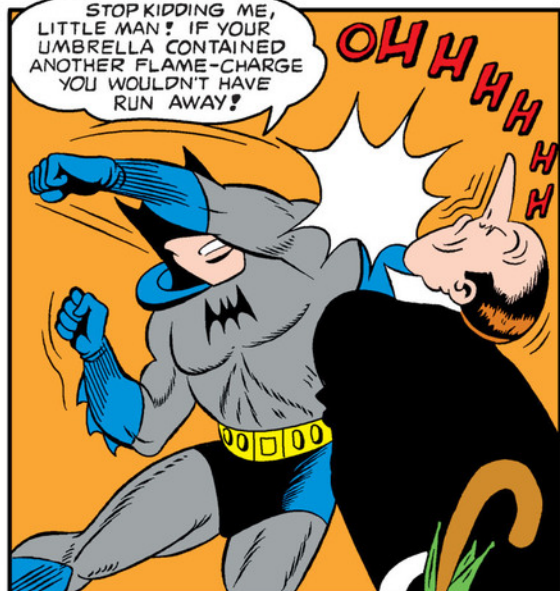
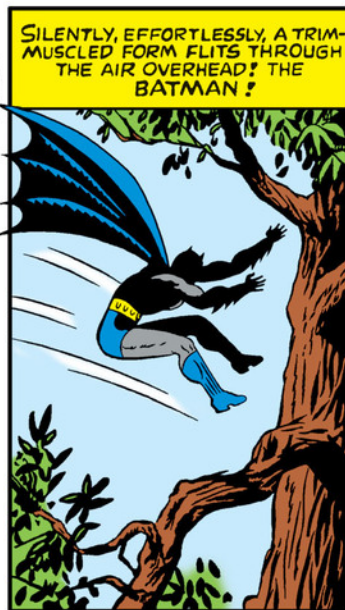
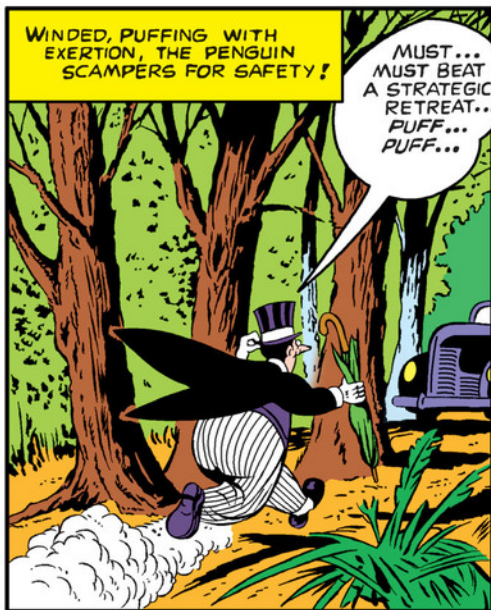
AAAAH !!



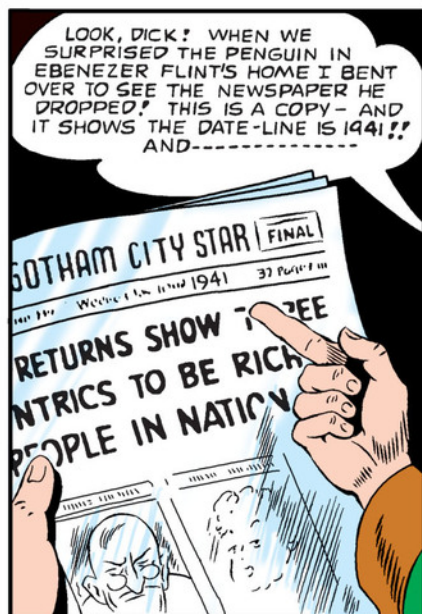
AS THE PENGUIN'S DUMPY BODY CLATTERS OUT THE CASTLE DOORS...

ROBIN... ARE YOU HURT?

JUST A MILD CASE OF SINGEING... THANKS TO THIS METAL UNDERWEAR! SAY!... WHERE'S THE PENGUIN?



THAT NIGHT... TWO MANTLED FIGURES DOFF THEIR COSTUMES, REVEALING THEMSELVES TO BE PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON!





Detective
COMICS

U. S. PAT. OFF.

SCORE

BATMAN

JOE RATS'Y PUG

X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X

ROBIN

JOE RATS'Y PUG

X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X	X

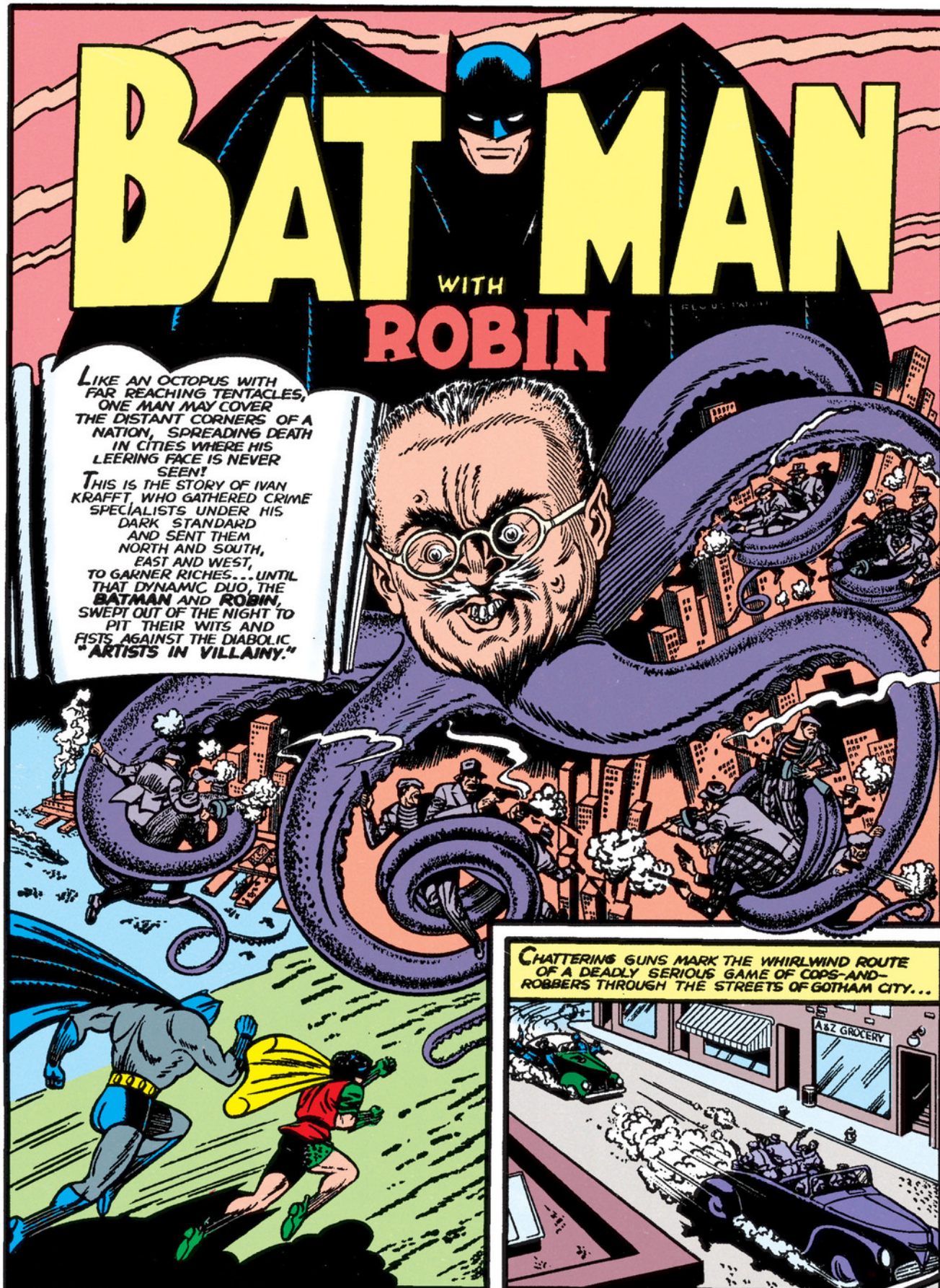


BATMAN

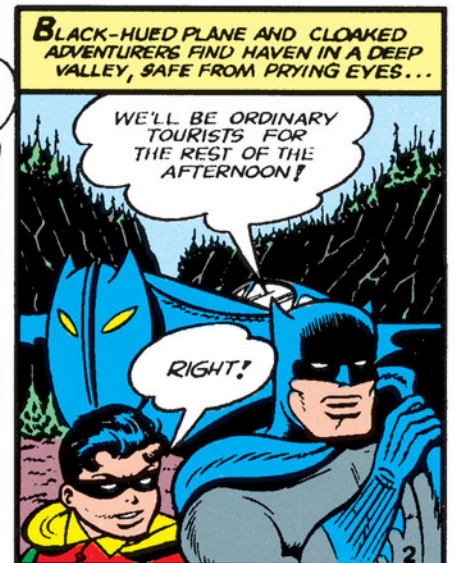
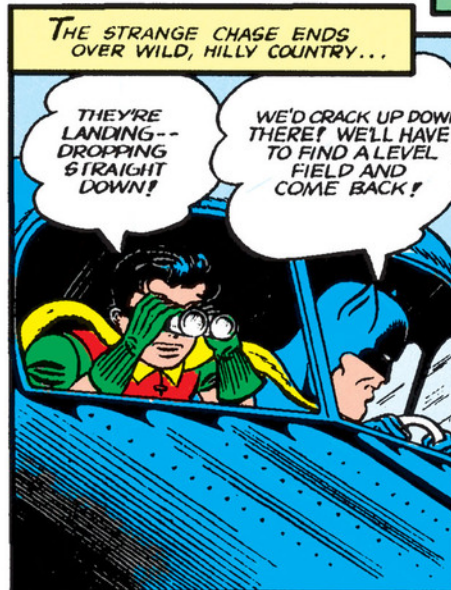
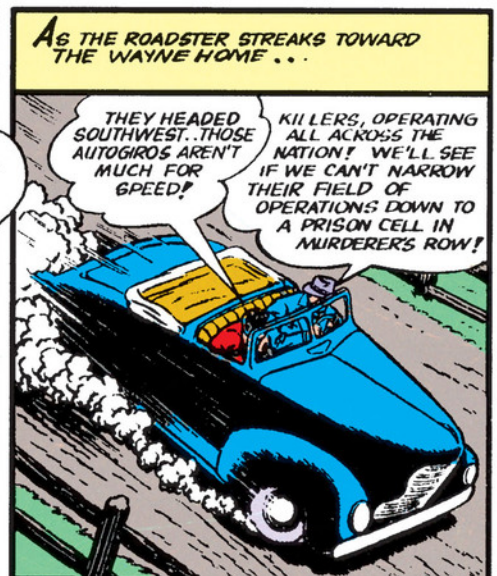
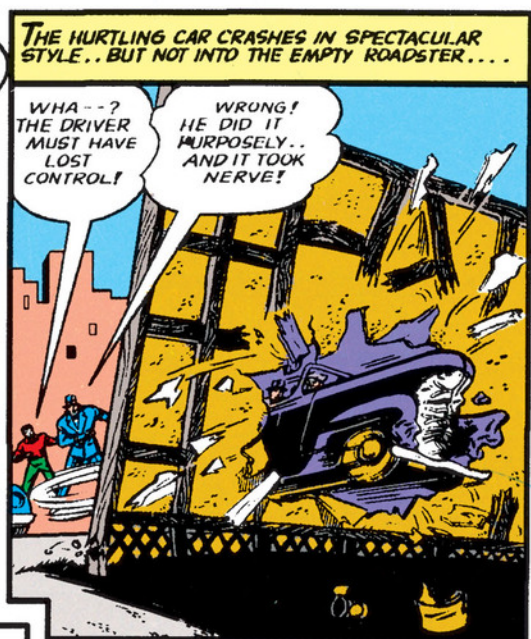
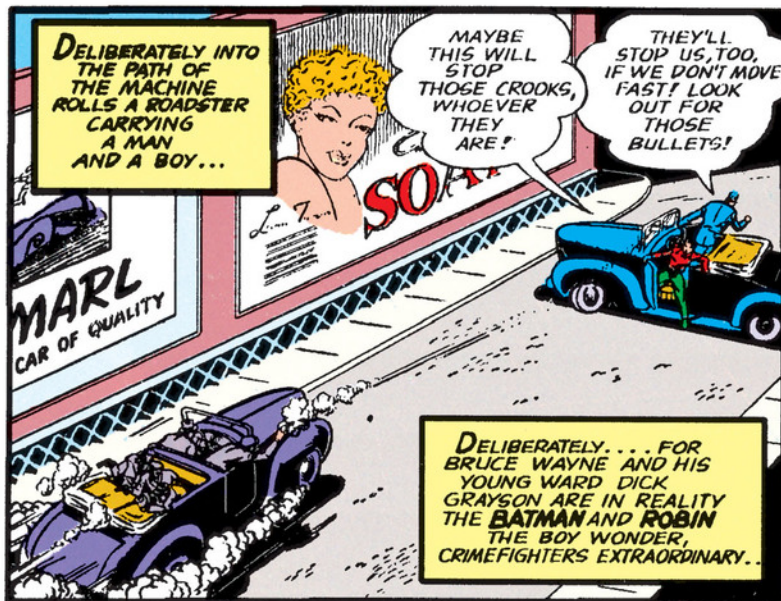
WITH
ROBIN

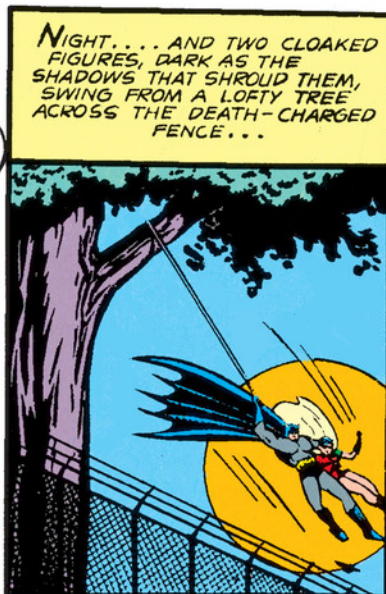
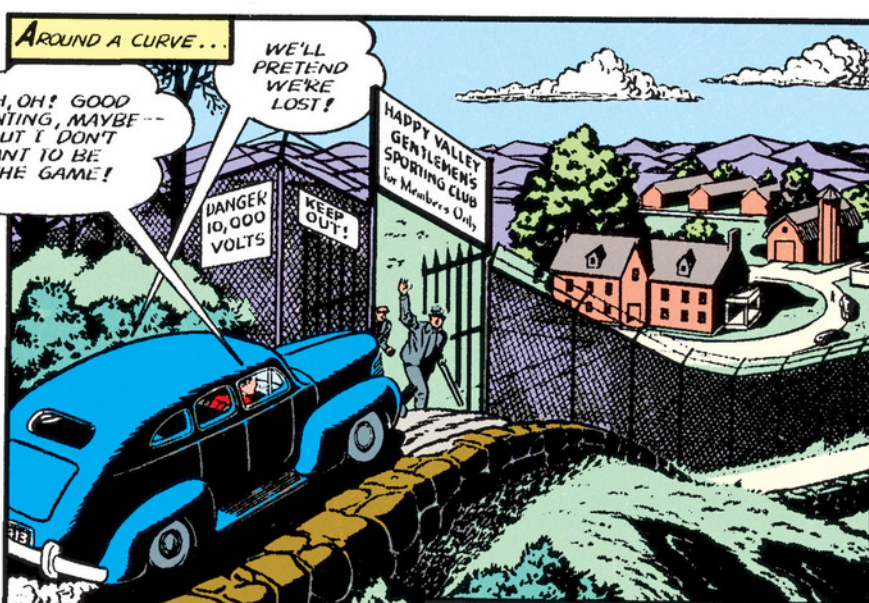
LIKE AN OCTOPUS WITH FAR REACHING TENTACLES, ONE MAN MAY COVER THE DISTANT CORNERS OF A NATION, SPREADING DEATH IN CITIES WHERE HIS LEERING FACE IS NEVER SEEN!

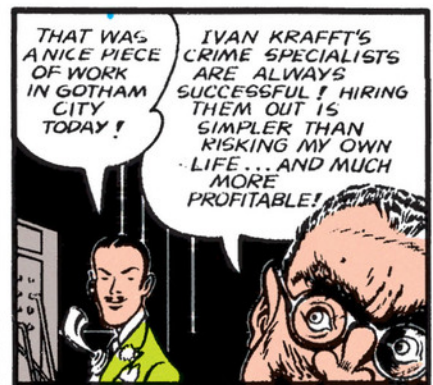
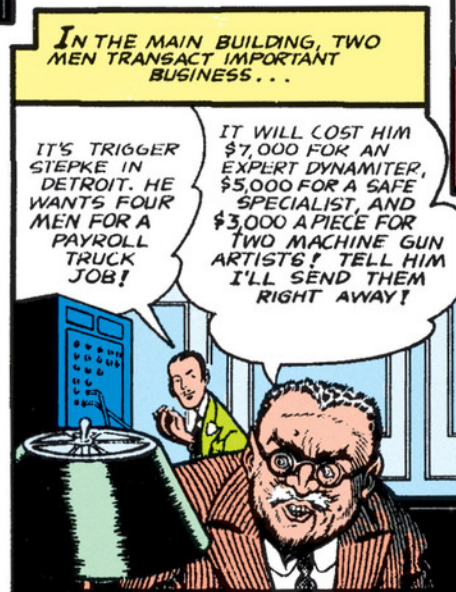
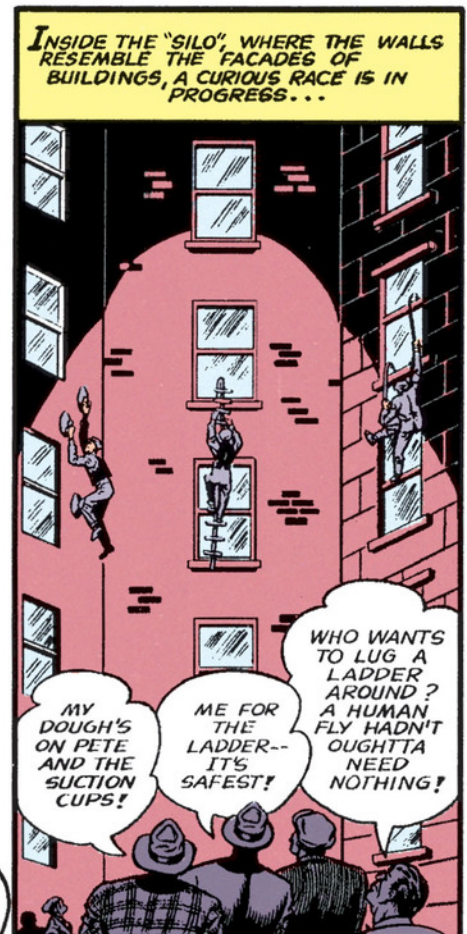
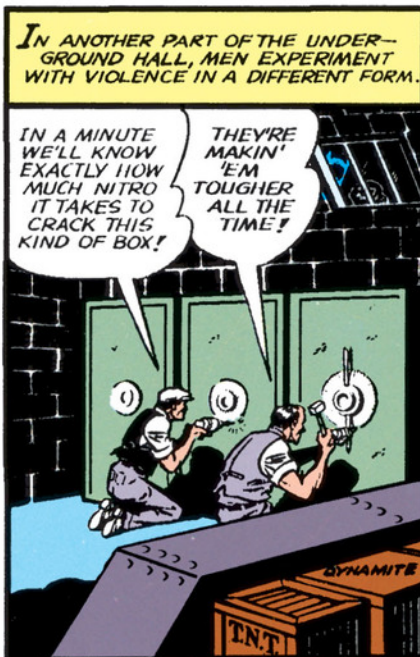
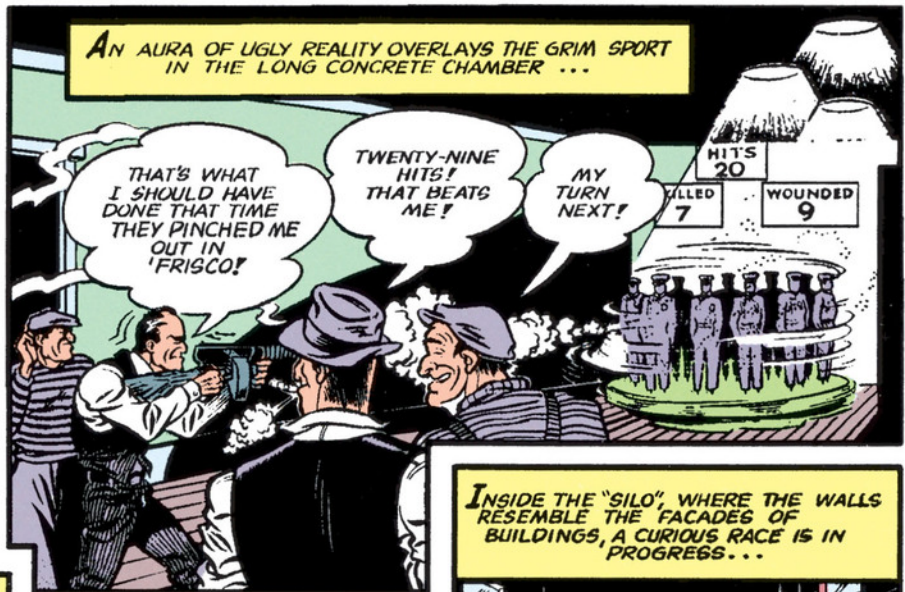
THIS IS THE STORY OF IVAN KRAFFT, WHO GATHERED CRIME SPECIALISTS UNDER HIS DARK STANDARD AND SENT THEM NORTH AND SOUTH, EAST AND WEST, TO GARNER RICHES...UNTIL THAT DYNAMIC DUO, THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, SWEEPED OUT OF THE NIGHT TO PIT THEIR WITS AND FISTS AGAINST THE DIABOLIC "ARTISTS IN VILLAINY."



CHATTERING GUNS MARK THE WHIRLWIND ROUTE OF A DEADLY SERIOUS GAME OF COPS-AND-ROBBERS THROUGH THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY...







KRAFFT, UNDERWORLD EMPLOYMENT AGENT, SUMMONS THE FOUR EXPERTS WHO ARE TO ROB THE PAYROLL TRUCK.

BURCHALL WILL FLY THE AUTOGIRO! SCARFACE WILL STEAL THE GETAWAY CAR! BE SURE TO USE PLENTY OF DYNAMITE! DICER, USE THAT TOMMY GUN OF YOURS ON EVERY COP IN SIGHT!

COUNT ON ME, CHIEF!

WHILE BENEATH THE OFFICE WINDOW...

AN EMPLOYMENT BUREAU FOR CRIMINALS? WHAT WILL THEY THINK UP NEXT?

ALL I KNOW IS THEY'LL DO THEIR THINKING IN PRISON! HERE'S WHERE WE NIP THAT DETROIT SCHEME IN THE BUD!

SUDDENLY... AS THE CRIME-FIGHTERS TURN, ROBIN TRIPS OVER A HIDDEN ALARM WIRE... GONGS CLANG AND FLOOD LIGHTS BLAZE...

OOPS! NOW I'VE DONE IT!

QUICK! UP IN THAT TREE BEFORE WE'RE SEEN!

TRESPASSERS! EVERYBODY OUTSIDE! SHOOT TO KILL!

JUST IN TIME!

FIVE THOUSAND REWARD TO THE MAN WHO GETS THEM!

I CAN USE THAT DOUGH!

POWERLESS TO ACT, THE BATMAN WATCHES THE AUTOGIRO SOAR AWAY ON ITS MISSION OF DEATH...

WE AREN'T BEATEN YET!

THERE THEY GO-- AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT!

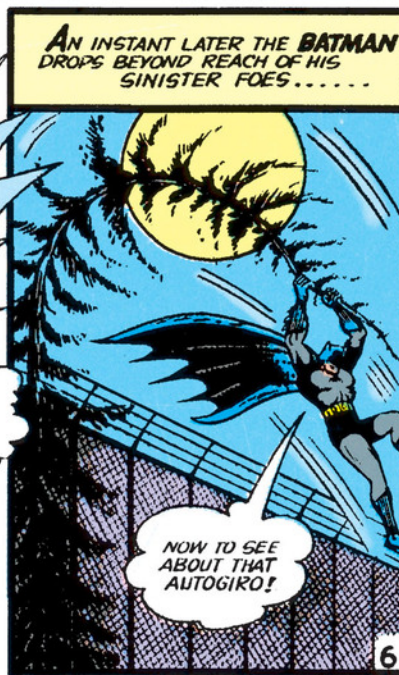
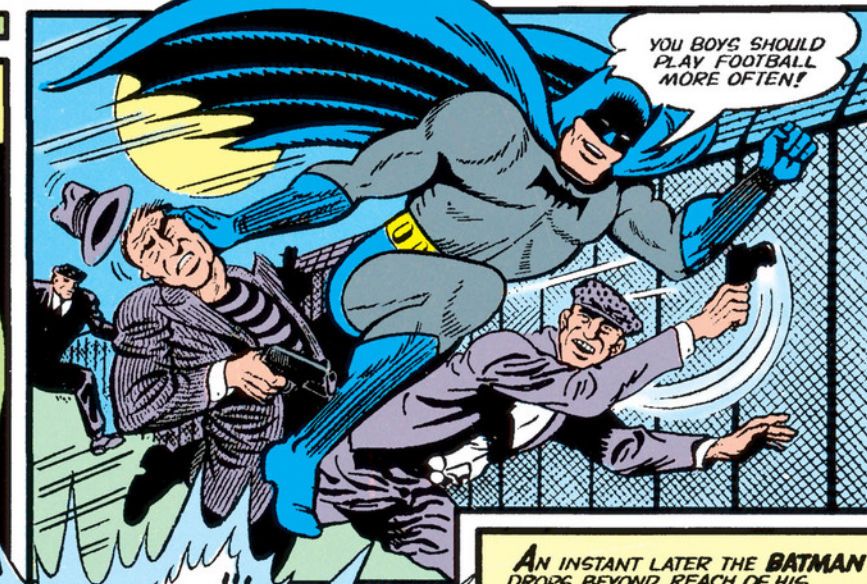
A DESPERATE PLAN TAKES SHAPE IN BATMAN'S FERTILE BRAIN!

YOU STAY HERE AND DON'T MOVE OR MAKE A SOUND! I'LL DASH FOR THE FENCE! THEY'LL THINK I CAME HERE ALONE!

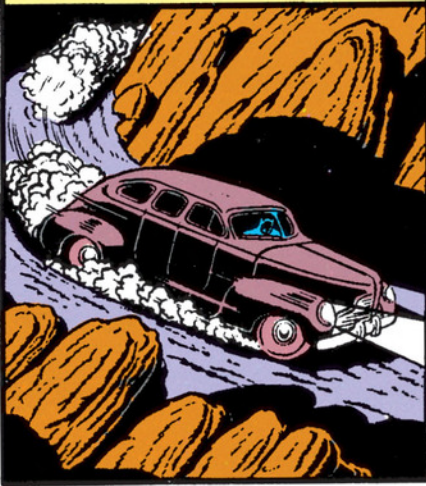
BE CAREFUL!

GOOD LUCK, BATMAN!

FLEXING HIS POWERFUL MUSCLES, THE BATMAN LEAPS MIGHTILY.



THE BORROWED SEDAN ROARS ALONG THE PERILOUS ROAD TOWARD THE VALLEY WHERE THE **BATPLANE** WAITS...



MOMENTS LATER THE SHADOW-CRAFT CROSSES THE FACE OF THE MOON LIKE A GIANT BAT...

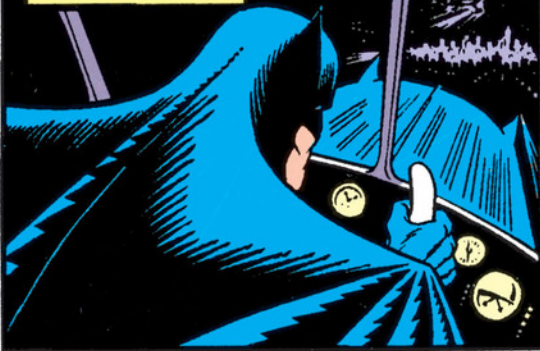


THE KILLERS WILL HEAD DUE WEST!! AT THIS SPEED I OUGHT TO CATCH UP WITH THEM IN NO TIME!

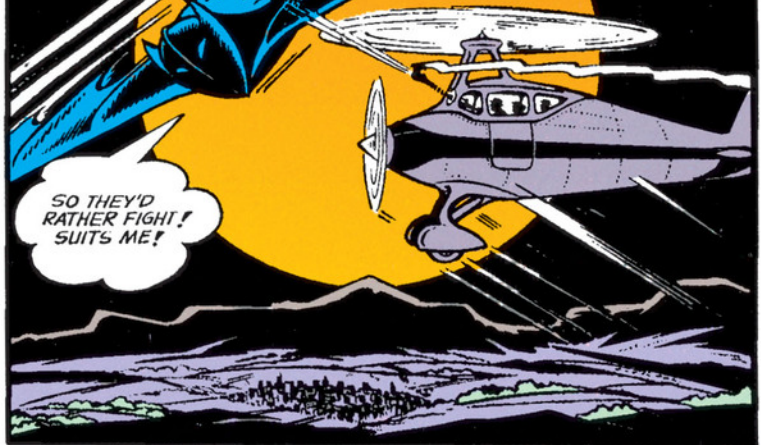


SOON THE **BATMAN** SIGHTS HIS QUARRY, SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE JEWELLED LIGHTS OF A CITY...

THERE THEY ARE! MAYBE I CAN BLUFF THEM INTO LANDING!

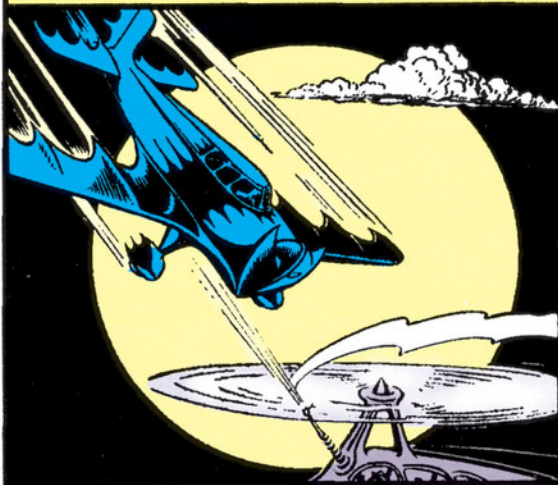


THE EERIE PLANE SWOOPS LIKE A BIRD OF PREY DRAWING THE FIRE OF THE CRIMINALS...



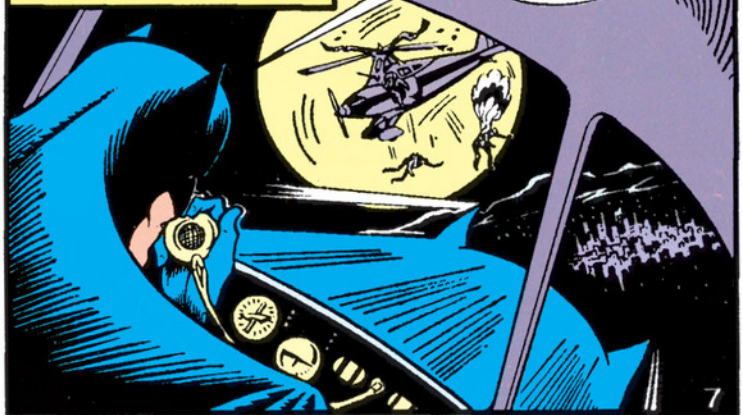
SO THEY'D RATHER FIGHT! SUITS ME!

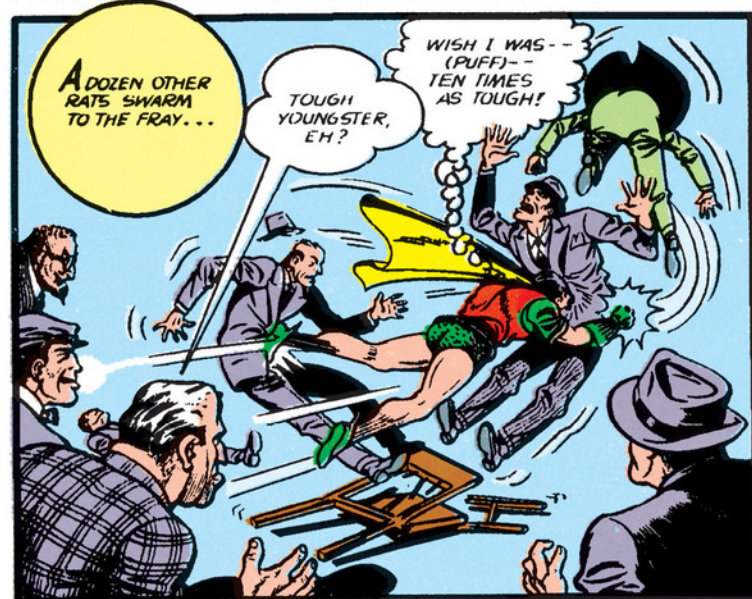
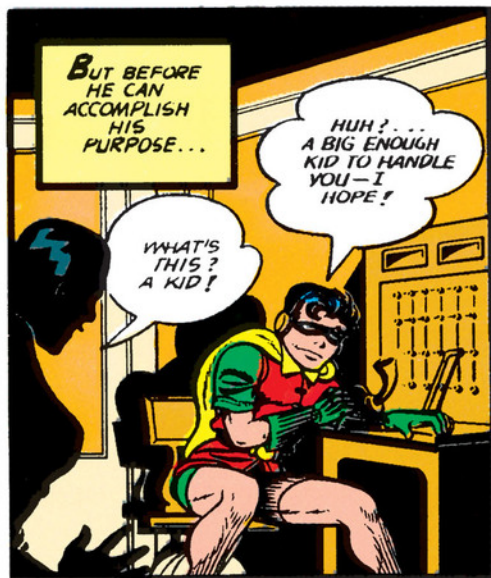
ONCE MORE, WHILE BULLETS RICOCHET FROM ITS ARMORED WINGS, THE **BATPLANE** DIVES STEEPLY WITH LANDING GEAR LOWERED...



EXPERTLY GUIDING HIS CRAFT, THE ACE PILOT SLAMS A LANDING WHEEL AGAINST ONE OF THE 'GIRO'S BLADES...

THE POLICE CAN PICK THEM UP! I'LL RADIO A WARNING!







NO MATTER! THE **BATMAN** WILL SOON RETURN FOR HIS YOUNG COMPANION! THIS TIME WE SHALL BE READY FOR HIM!



SO IT IS THAT WHEN THE **BATMAN** REAPPEARS FROM OUT OF THE SHADOWS, A RECEPTION COMMITTEE AWAITS HIM...

I HOPE **ROBIN'S** SAFE!

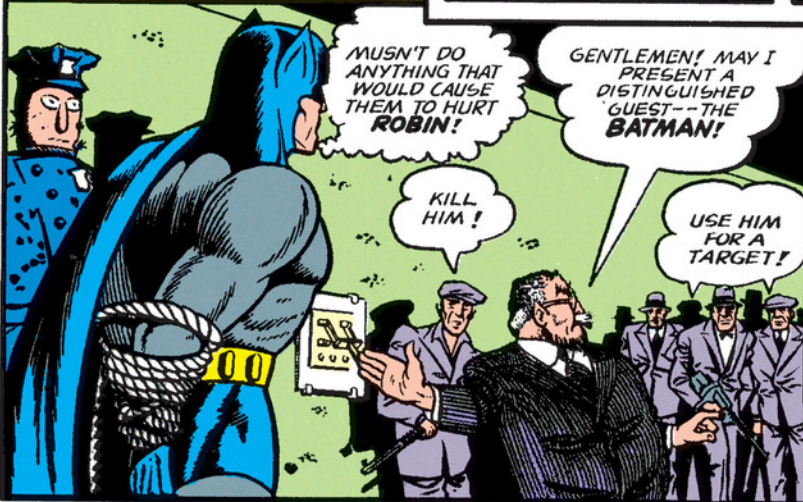


A LIGHTNING ATTACK... THE THUD OF BLUDGEONS AND FISTS... AND THE MIGHTY FIGHTER IS SUBDUED WITHOUT A CHANCE TO FIGHT BACK...

WE'VE GOT YOUR LITTLE PAL! IF YOU CARE ABOUT HIS HEALTH YOU WON'T TRY TO GET AWAY!

ROBIN? YOU'VE GOT HIM?...

HIS ARMS BOUND TIGHTLY, THE CAPTIVE IS LED TO THE MACHINE-GUN RANGE...

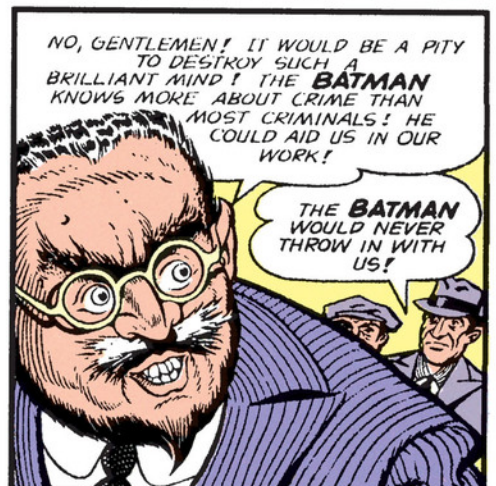


MUSN'T DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD CAUSE THEM TO HURT **ROBIN**!

GENTLEMEN! MAY I PRESENT A DISTINGUISHED GUEST--THE **BATMAN**!

KILL HIM!

USE HIM FOR A TARGET!



NO, GENTLEMEN! IT WOULD BE A PITY TO DESTROY SUCH A BRILLIANT MIND! THE **BATMAN** KNOWS MORE ABOUT CRIME THAN MOST CRIMINALS! HE COULD AID US IN OUR WORK!

THE **BATMAN** WOULD NEVER THROW IN WITH US!



YOU UNDERRATE ME! THIS LIQUID--A SCOPOLAMINE DERIVATIVE--COMPLETELY DESTROYS THE HUMAN WILL! ONCE THE **BATMAN** DRINKS IT, HE WILL WORK WITH US!

WHEE!... WHAT A GAG!... HOORAY FOR THE CHIEF!

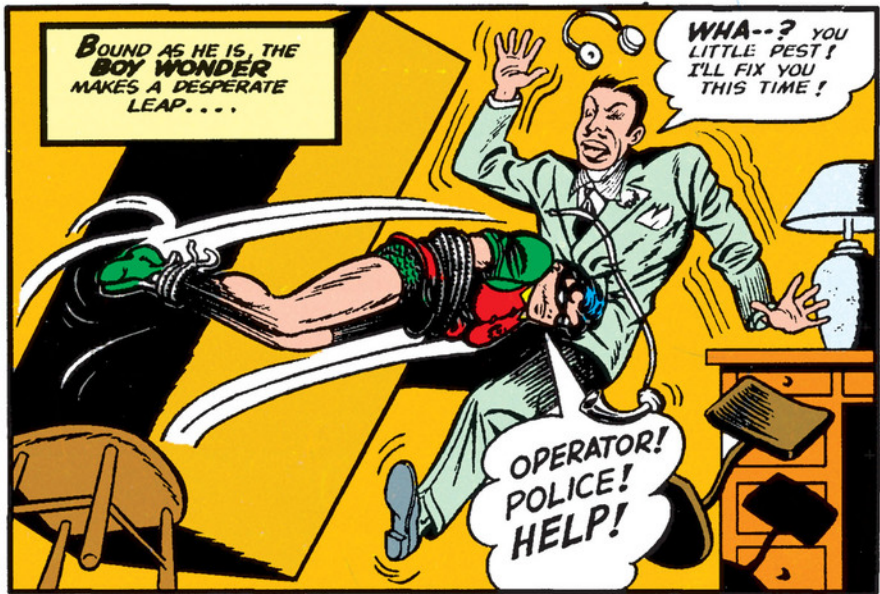


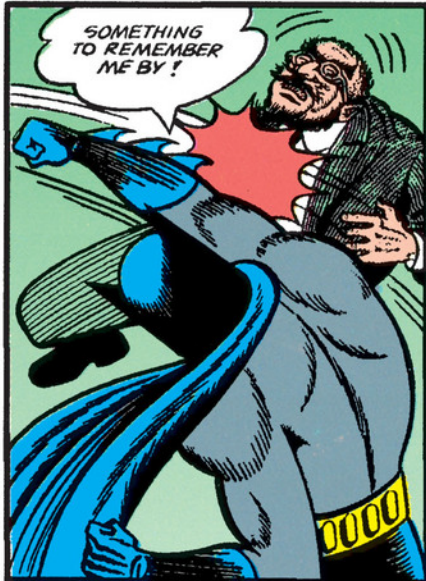
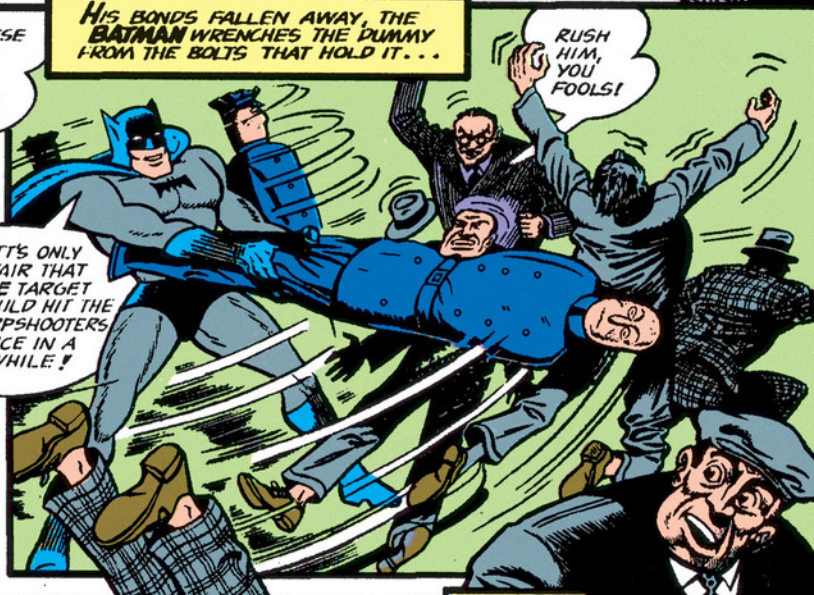
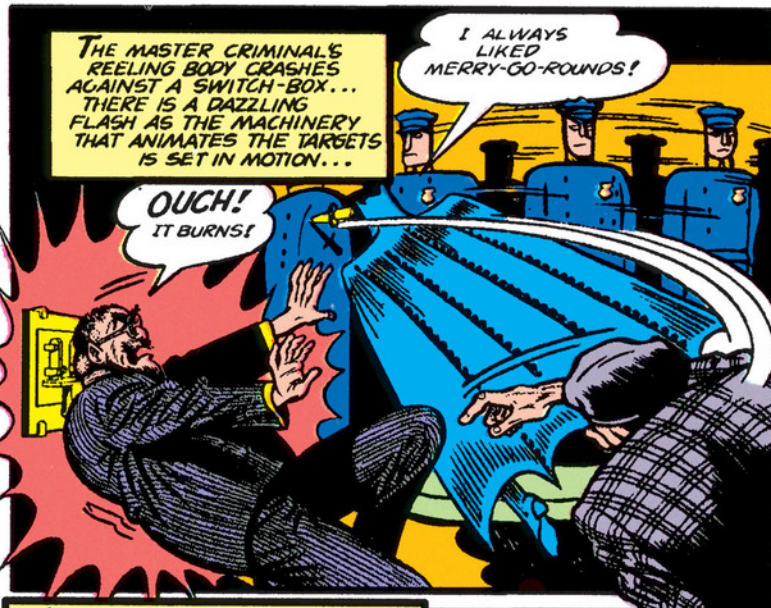
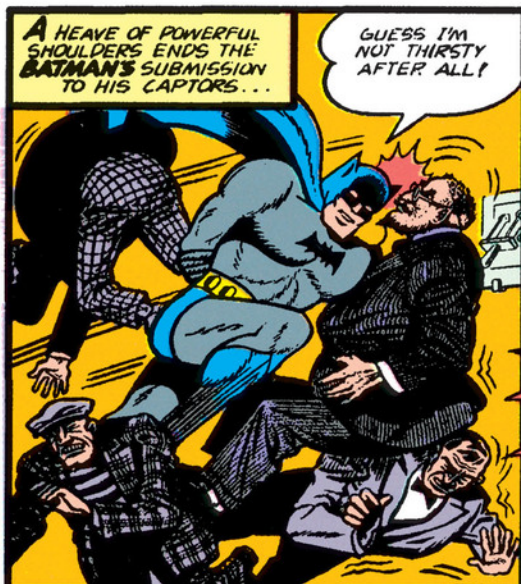
MAY I OFFER YOU A DRINK? OR WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE UNPLEASANT THINGS HAPPEN TO **ROBIN**?

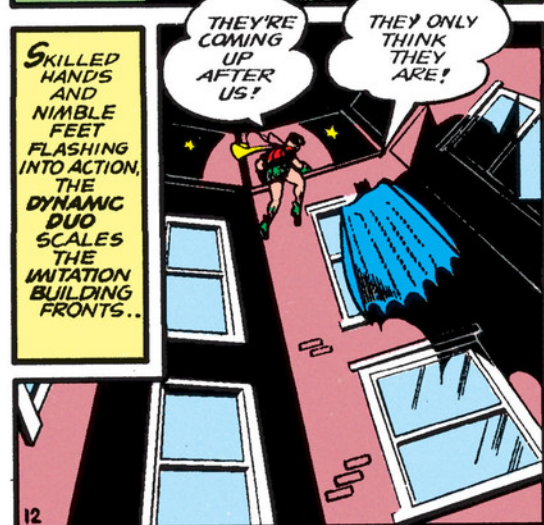
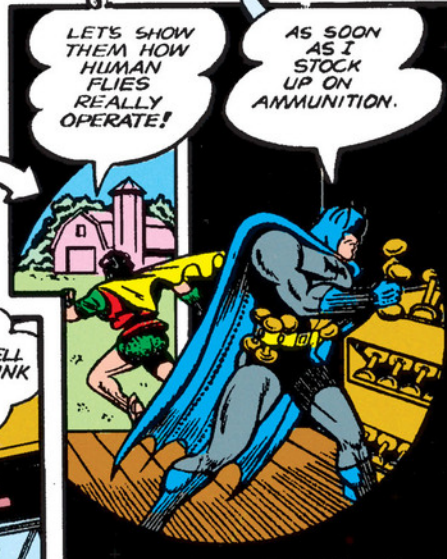
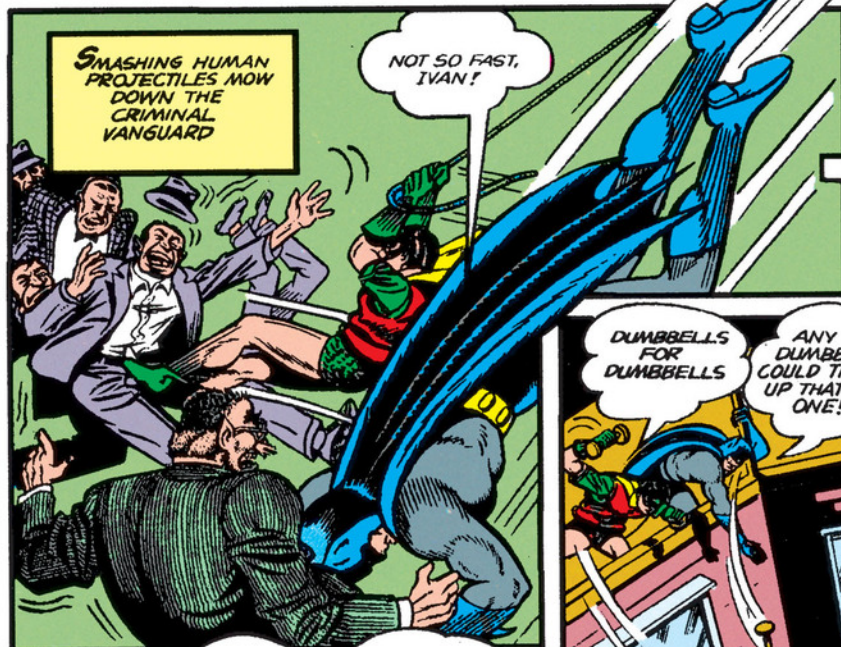
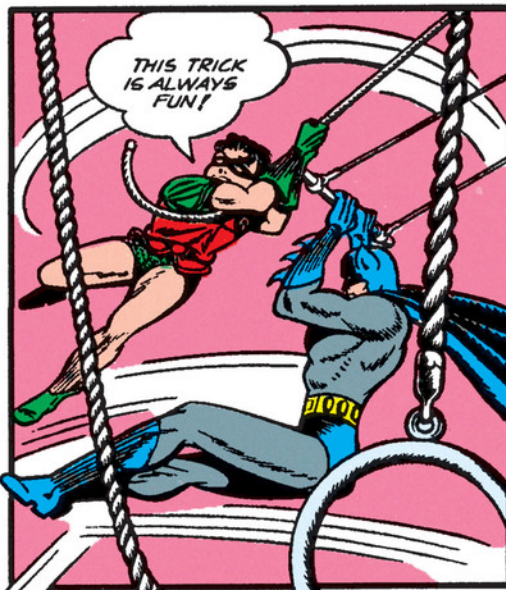
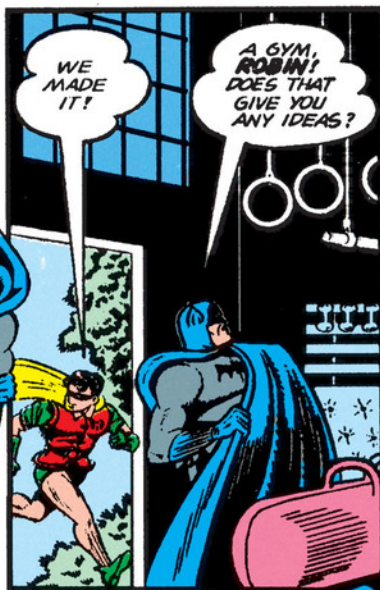
WHAT A LAUGH!

THIS IS RICH!

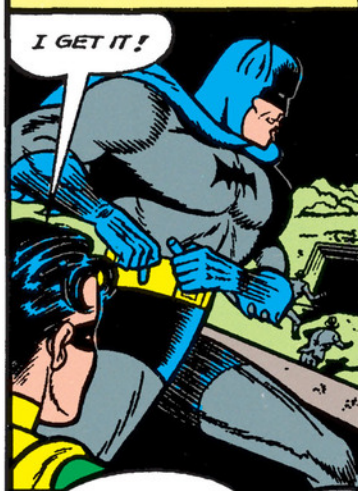
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! BUT WHAT?







TAKING TWO TINY VIALS FROM A POCKET OF HIS UTILITY BELT, THE BATMAN MIXES THEIR CONTENTS...



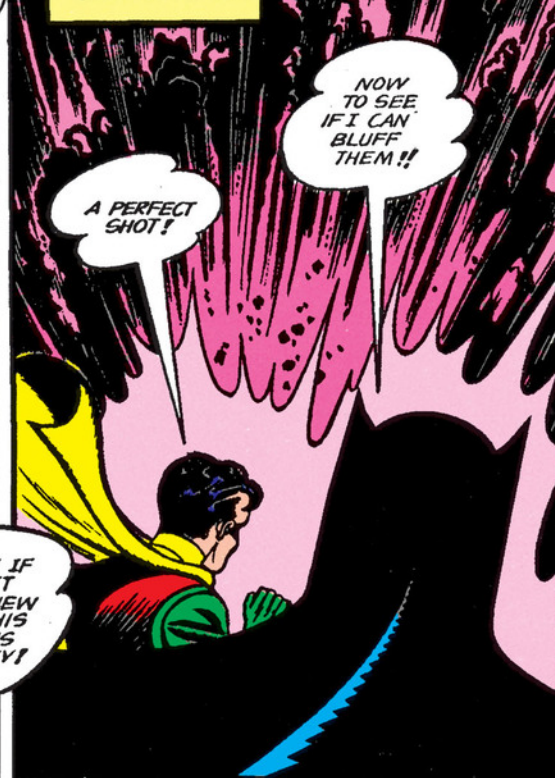
I GET IT!

AND HURLS THE VIAL CONTAINING THE MIXTURE DOWN BELOW...



IF ONLY IT HITS NEAR WHERE ALL THAT HIGH EXPLOSIVE'S STACKED!

A SECOND LATER THE SKY IS RENT BY A GEYSER OF LEAPING FLAME..



NOW TO SEE IF I CAN BLUFF THEM!!

A PERFECT SHOT!



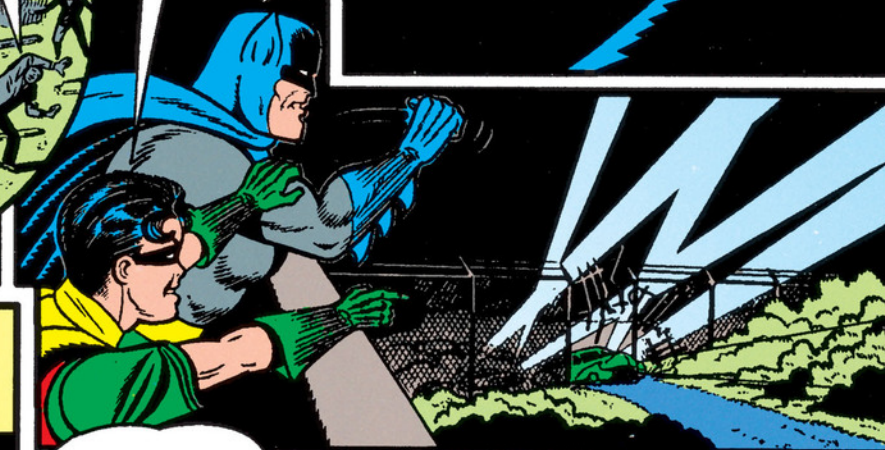
PUT UP YOUR HANDS, OR THIS NEXT ONE WILL LAND RIGHT AMONG YOU!

DON'T THROW IT, BATMAN! WE'LL SURRENDER!

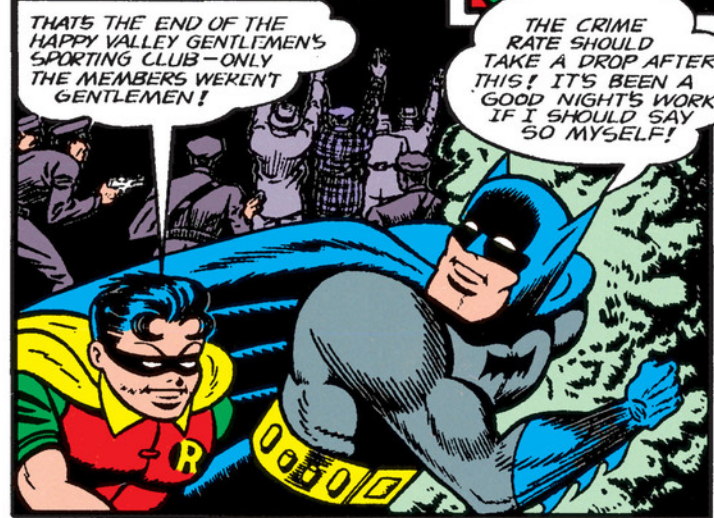
YOU WIN!... WE GIVE UP!...

THE POLICE! THE TELEPHONE OPERATOR MUST HAVE HEARD ME YELL FOR HELP!

GOOD! IF KRAFFT ONLY KNEW THAT THIS VIAL IS EMPTY!



LATER...TWO SILENT FIGURES FADE INTO THE SHADOWS FROM WHICH THEY CAME, LEAVING STATE TROOPERS IN CHARGE OF THE SULEN PRISONERS...



THAT'S THE END OF THE HAPPY VALLEY GENTLEMEN'S SPORTING CLUB—ONLY THE MEMBERS WEREN'T GENTLEMEN!

THE CRIME RATE SHOULD TAKE A DROP AFTER THIS! IT'S BEEN A GOOD NIGHT'S WORK IF I SHOULD SAY SO MYSELF!

THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN A HOUSE IN GOTHAM CITY...



AND SO ENDS THE CASE OF THE SPECIALISTS IN CRIME!!

BUT THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT THE WAY THEY ENDED UP...LIKE ALL OTHER UNDERWORLD RATS!

Gotham City Press
BATMAN SMASHES UNDERWORLD EMPLOYMENT AGENCY!



No. 85

MARCH...



The BATMAN

Detective COMICS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

WHAT'S THIS--
TWO JOKERS??
WHICH IS WHICH??

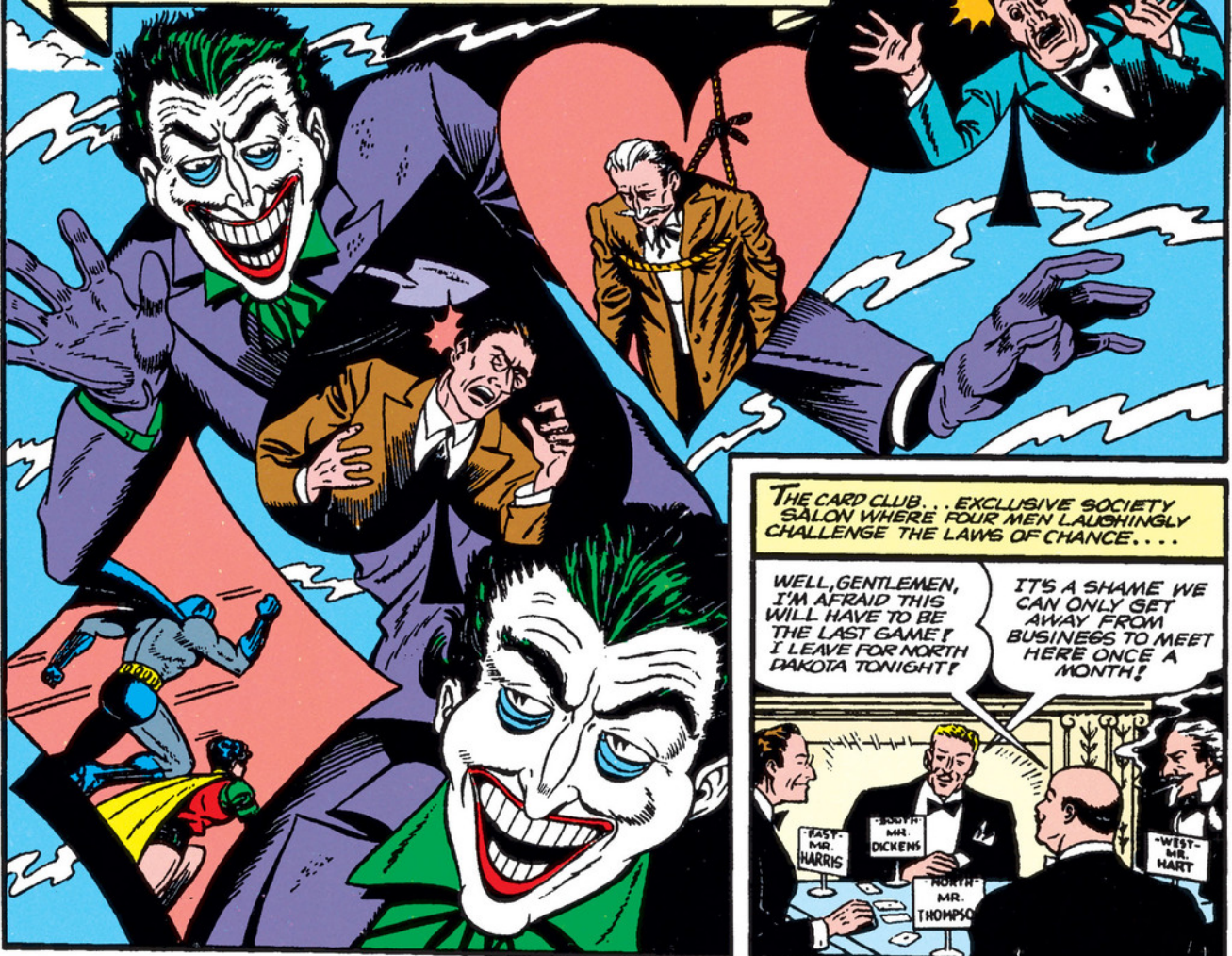


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

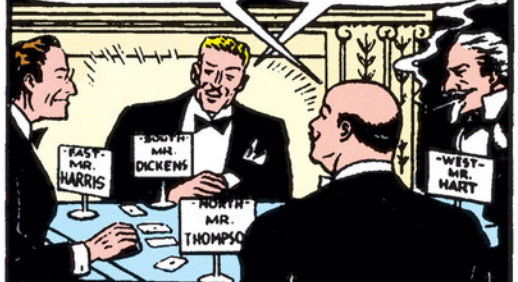
NORTH, EAST, SOUTH AND WEST. . . A FANTASTIC FIGURE THAT PURPORTS TO BE THE **JOKER**, LASHES OUT IN A SERIES OF DIABOLICAL CRIMES THAT TURNS THE BATTLE OF LAW VERSUS LARCENY INTO A BIZARRE BRIDGE GAME. HERE IS A MOCKING MASQUERADE THAT TURNS THE TABLES OF RIGHT AND WRONG INTO A TOPSY-TURVY OF MADNESS! HERE IS AN ADVENTURE THAT FINDS THE **JOKER** A PARTNER OF THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, BATTLING ALONGSIDE THEM TO SOLVE A BAFFLING CRIME. . . AND THEN BIDDING FOR VICTORY WITH A TERRIFYING TRUMP CARD IN THE MYSTERY OF - "THE JOKER'S DOUBLE" . . .



THE CARD CLUB. . . EXCLUSIVE SOCIETY SALON WHERE FOUR MEN LAUGHINGLY CHALLENGE THE LAWS OF CHANCE. . .

WELL, GENTLEMEN, I'M AFRAID THIS WILL HAVE TO BE THE LAST GAME! I LEAVE FOR NORTH DAKOTA TONIGHT!

IT'S A SHAME WE CAN ONLY GET AWAY FROM BUSINESS TO MEET HERE ONCE A MONTH!



AS THE FOUR MEN PREPARE TO LEAVE...



IT WAS A PLEASURE PLAYING WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS! I HOPE WE'LL SOON ENJOY ANOTHER RUBBER OF BRIDGE!

I'M SURE WE WILL! PLEASANT TRIP!

SAME TO YOU!

TO TAKE FOUR PATHS LEADING TO DIFFERENT POINTS OF THE COMPASS... AND FOUR STRANGE DESTINIES!

DEEP IN THE BLEAK BADLANDS OF NORTH DAKOTA, A GIANT FACTORY SPRAWLS ACROSS ACRES OF PLAINS.



TWELVE O'CLOCK AND ALL'S WELL!

LIKE THE WILD NORTH WIND CREEPING THROUGH THE SMALLEST CRACK, A SHADOWY FIGURE SLIPS INTO THE LONELY BUILDING...



TWELVE O'CLOCK AND ALL'S WELL... FOR ME! THAT STUPID WATCHMAN COULDN'T SEE A LIGHTHOUSE IN THE DAYTIME!

A BIZARRE FIGURE CLAD IN THE STRANGE GARB THAT BELONGS TO ANOTHER MAN—THE JOKER!...

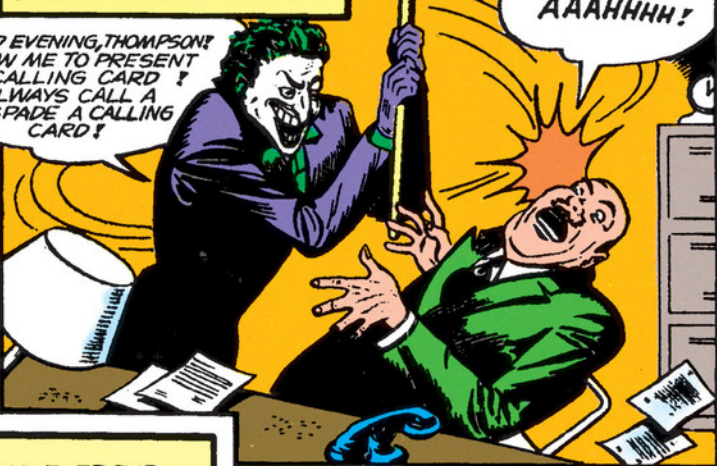


A MASTERPIECE OF MAKE-UP! IF THE JOKER WERE TO SEE ME NOW! HE WOULD WELCOME ME AS HIS LONG-LOST TWIN BROTHER... IF HE EVER HAD ONE!

J. J. THOMPSON
PRESIDENT

WIELDING HIS CRUEL WEAPON LIKE A BLUDGEON, THE JOKER'S DOUBLE STRIKES ONCE...

GOOD EVENING, THOMPSON! ALLOW ME TO PRESENT MY CALLING CARD! I ALWAYS CALL A SPADE A CALLING CARD!

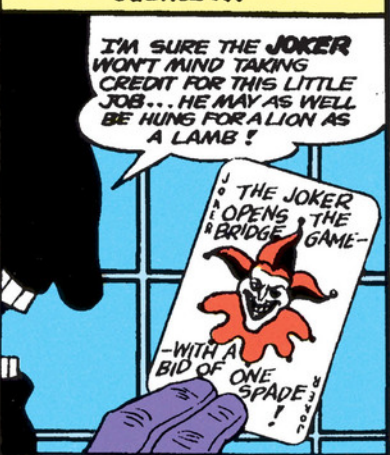


THE JOKER! AAAHHHH!



TEN... ELEVEN... TWELVE THOUSAND! NOT BAD AT ALL! I'M AFRAID MR. THOMPSON'S BUSINESS CURVE HAS TAKEN A SHARP TURN FOR THE WORSE!

WITH A FINAL GESTURE, THE JOKER'S DOUBLE FLINGS THE SYMBOL OF THE MASTER OF MOCKERY IN THE FACE OF JUSTICE...



I'M SURE THE JOKER WON'T MIND TAKING CREDIT FOR THIS LITTLE JOB... HE MAY AS WELL BE HUNG FOR A LION AS A LAMB!

THE JOKER OPENS THE GAME—
—WITH A BID OF ONE SPADE!

AND ONCE MORE SCANDALIZED SOCIETY SHOUTS IN STUNNED PROTEST...



WUXTRY! WUXTRY! JOKER MURDERS MAN IN NORTH DAKOTA!

THE JOKER! LOOSE AGAIN!

HERE, BOY, LET'S HAVE A PAPER...

ALMOST FASTER THAN THE NEWS CAN SPREAD--THE **JOKER'S DOUBLE** STRIKES AGAIN--IN **SOUTH DAKOTA!**

THE GAME MOVES QUICKLY... LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME FOR ME TO CONTRIBUTE ANOTHER CRIME TO THE REAL **JOKER'S** INFAMY!



TINY PEBBLES PATTERN AGAINST THE WINDOW PANE-- MUTED MESSENGERS OF DOOM FROM THE **DOUBLE!**

NOW TO SEE IF BANK PRESIDENT DICKENS IS CURIOUS... AH-- HE'S AT THE WINDOW!



AN UPTHRUST WINDOW--A CURIOUS GLANCE OUTSIDE--AND THE **JOKER'S DOUBLE** WIELDS A PAIR OF MURDEROUS CLUBS!

NICE OF YOU TO ANSWER MY CALL, DICKENS. I HOPE MY INTENTIONS GO STRAIGHT TO YOUR HEAD!

WHA... OHHHH!



SECONDS LATER...

AND SO DICKENS' BANK MAKES A CONTRIBUTION TO MY POCKET, AND THE **JOKER'S DOUBLE** MAKES A CONTRIBUTION TO THE CRIME CLOWN'S RECORD! NO ONE WILL EVER SUSPECT ME!



AGAIN THE **JOKER'S DOUBLE** DROPS A MISLEADING CHALLENGE..

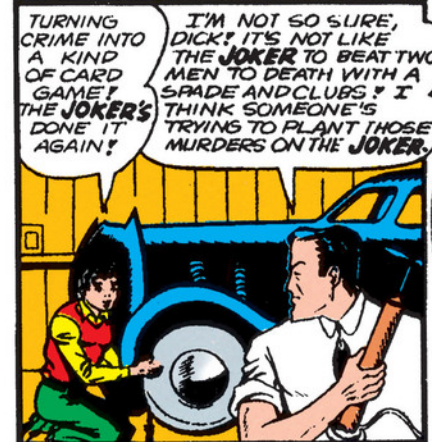


SUCH MODESTY! I HATE TO GIVE THE **JOKER** CREDIT FOR MY CLEVERNESS!

FAR FROM THE FRIGHTENED CROWDS, IN THEIR HIDDEN GARAGE, BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON DISCUSS THE ELECTRIFYING NEWS AS THEY TUNE THE **BATMOBILE** FOR SERVICE...

TURNING CRIME INTO A KIND OF CARD GAME! THE **JOKER'S** DONE IT AGAIN!

I'M NOT SO SURE, DICK! IT'S NOT LIKE THE **JOKER** TO BEAT TWO MEN TO DEATH WITH A SPADE AND CLUBS! I THINK SOMEONE'S TRYING TO PLANT THOSE MURDERS ON THE **JOKER**.



YOU'RE NOT DEFENDING THE **JOKER**, ARE YOU?

NO, I'M NOT! THE **JOKER** IS AMERICA'S MOST CUNNING CRIMINAL, BUT AT THE SAME TIME HE HAS HIS OWN PECULIAR CODE OF HONOR! AND THAT CODE DOES NOT INCLUDE CLUMSY BRUTAL CRIMES! THERE'S A LOT MORE TO THIS THAN MEETS THE EYE!



HERE... GET THAT TIRE BLOWN UP... I'M GOING OUT! BOTH DICKENS AND THOMPSON WERE MEMBERS OF MY CLUB! MAYBE I CAN PICK UP A FEW CLUES THERE WHILE THE POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING!





WE ALL PLAYED BRIDGE TOGETHER FOR YEARS, ALWAYS TAKING THESE SAME POSITIONS. THOMPSON WAS NORTH AND DICKENS WAS SOUTH... NOW THAT BOTH HAVE BEEN MURDERED, I DON'T KNOW WHICH OF US WILL BE NEXT! EAST... OR WEST...

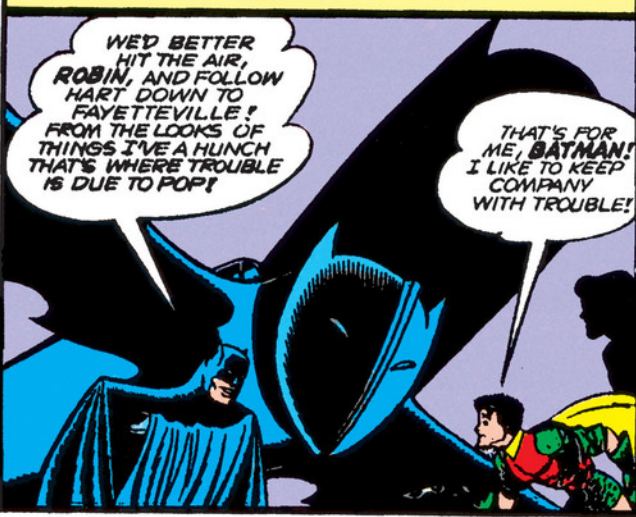
I'M ALMOST AFRAID TO RETURN TO WEST VIRGINIA TONIGHT! MY BUSINESS IS IN FAYETTEVILLE, YOU KNOW!

DON'T WORRY, MR. HART! WE'LL HAVE THE JOKER BEHIND BARS BEFORE YOU GET HOME!

NOT WITHOUT BATMAN'S HELP, BROTHER!



ONE AVENUE OF INFORMATION A DEAD-END--BRUCE AND DICK TAKE THE ONLY REMAINING ROAD--THE ROAD TO ACTION!



WHILE AT THE SAME MOMENT, IN THE FASTNESS OF HIS HIDDEN RETREAT, THE JOKER IS STARTLED BY THE RADIO'S NEWS...

WHAT'S THAT? THE JOKER?



THE IMPUDENCE OF THAT CHEAP CROOK! USING MY NAME TO COVER UP HIS OWN CLUNGY JOBS... DARING TO MASQUERADE AS ME, THE JOKER! HOLDING UP MY STERLING REPUTATION TO SCORN AND FOR CLEVERNESS CONTEMPT!



WITH THE TEMPERAMENTAL TANTRUM OF A HIGH-STRUNG STAR, THE JOKER SETS ABOUT UNMASKING HIS COUNTERFEIT DOUBLE

WHO COULD HAVE THE GALL TO ATTEMPT THIS MASQUERADE... KNOWING WHAT I WOULD DO TO HIM? MY FILES SHOULD GIVE SOME CLUE... FIRST... WHAT CROOKS USE MAKE-UP?...



SO THE INDEX SHOWS NOTHING ON MAKE-UP... NONE OF THE CROOKS WHO SPECIALIZE IN COSTUMES IS OUT OF JAIL... VERY WELL THE **JOKER'S** NOT BEATEN YET... I'LL TRY THE FILES ON CRIME METHODS! WHAT THUGS SPECIALIZE IN BEATING THEIR VICTIMS?...

NOTHING... THOUSANDS OF CROOKS, BUT NOT ONE HAS EVER USED A CLUB OR A SPADE... THERE ISN'T A CLUE IN ALL MY FILES! I MUST START OUT ON A BARE TRAIL!

A71 77305

MUGS McKANN-HEIGHT 5'10" WT 197; SECOND-STORY MAN. SPECIALTY-LEAD-PIPE!

VERY WELL, THEN! EVEN IF IT MEANS THAT I MUST NOW FIGHT ON THE SIDE OF LAW AND ORDER, I'LL SMASH THIS CHEAP IMITATION AND EXPOSE HIM! NO SACRIFICE IS TOO GREAT TO MAINTAIN THE HONOR OF THE **JOKER!**

GENTLEMEN... I GIVE YOU JUSTICE! THE **JOKER** TURNS DETECTIVE AT LAST AND JOINS HIS ARCH ENEMIES IN A FIGHT AGAINST CRIME...

A GLASS-SHATTERING CRASH AS THE HARLEQUIN OF HATE DRINKS A TOAST TO HIMSELF...

THE **JOKER** ALONE WILL PROVE THAT CRIME DOES NOT PAY... HA-HA-HA!

NO DOUBT THE **BATMAN** AND THAT BRAT, **ROBIN**, ARE ALREADY ON THE TRAIL OF MY DOUBLET! FINE! I'LL JOIN THEM... SO THE **JOKER** JOINS FORCES WITH THE **BATMAN**... WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE!

BATMAN! ISN'T THAT HART'S FACTORY? LOOK THERE... IT'S BURNING!

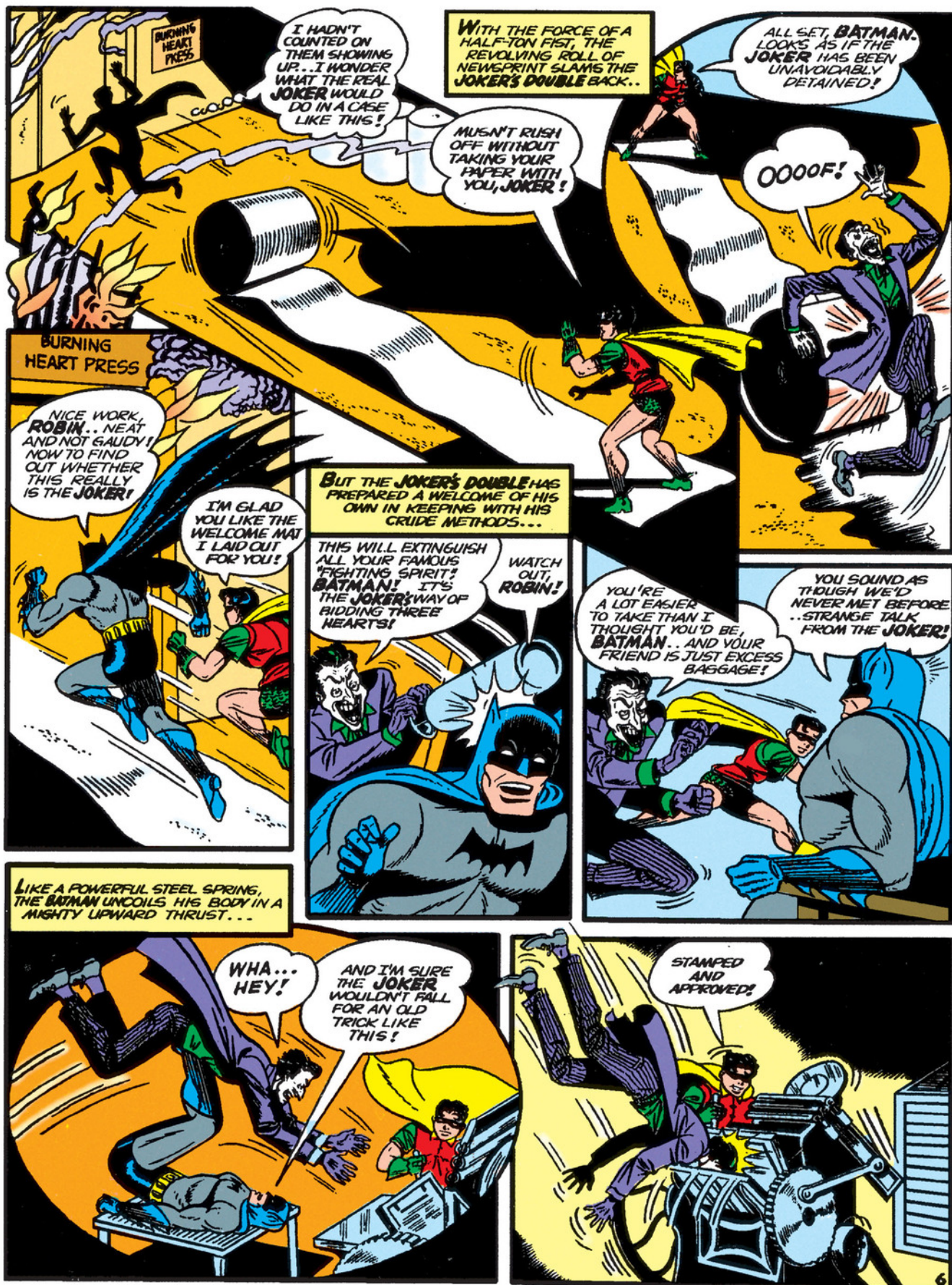
LOOKS LIKE HART'S HUNCH ABOUT TROUBLE WAS RIGHT! THE **JOKER** BEAT US TO IT, **ROBIN!**

HOURS LATER, LOFTING THROUGH THE NIGHT SKIES LIKE A GIANT WINGED CREATURE, THE **BATPLANE** SPEEDS IN SPACE TOWARD FAYETTEVILLE...

GIANT MOTORS MOANING THEIR POWER, THE **BATPLANE** BORES DOWN TOWARD EARTH IN A POWER DIVE...

THERE'S THE **JOKER**... HE SEES US COMING-AND HE'S RUNNING AWAY! THAT'S NOT LIKE HIM!

TAKE CARE OF THE PLANE, **BATMAN**... I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE **JOKER!**



BOUNCING LIKE A BALL OF FURY, THE MASQUERADER TOPPLES THE TYPE FONTS... AND A THOUSAND METAL SLUGS FLY...

SO YOU WANT TO PLAY PRINTER, EH? WELL, HERE'S THE WHOLE ALPHABET!

OUCH! THIS STUFF CUTS!

SHIELD YOUR EYES, ROBIN!

SEEKING A POINT OF VANTAGE, THE JOKER'S DOUBLE LEAPS FOR THE GIANT MAIN PRESS...

THESE BIG LETTERS WEIGH JUST ENOUGH FOR THROWING, ROBIN. MAYBE WE CAN BRING HIM DOWN...

I CAN TAKE A HINT!

METAL LETTERS WHIZ AT THE JOKER'S DOUBLE IN A STEADY STREAM...

USE PLENTY OF CONTROL! MAKE EVERY LETTER COUNT!

OW-W-W! I'LL SHOW YOU THAT TWO CAN PLAY THE PRINTER'S GAME...

DO I HAVE TO SPELL RIGHT?

A SWITCH SNAPS... AND THE JOKER'S DOUBLE SETS THE GIANT PRESS THUNDERING AT SUPER-SPEED...

HERE ARE A FEW PAGES FROM MY LATEST BOOK!

WHERE'S HE GONE? I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!

STEP TO ONE SIDE, QUICK! WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM BEFORE THE ENTIRE BUILDING GOES UP IN SMOKE!

SUDDENLY, UNNOTICED BY HIS COUNTERFEIT, THE REAL MASTER OF MOCKERY HIMSELF SLIPS INTO THE SCENE...

AAAAH! MOLTEN TYPE-METALS! JUST THE KIND OF HOT BATH YOU TWO ARE SURE TO ENJOY!

YOU CHEAP IMITATION! I'LL MAKE YOU WISH YOU NEVER HEARD OF THE JOKER BEFORE. I'M DONE WITH YOU!

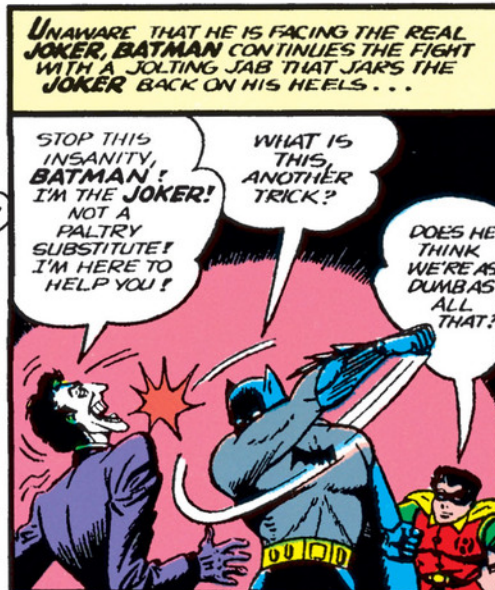
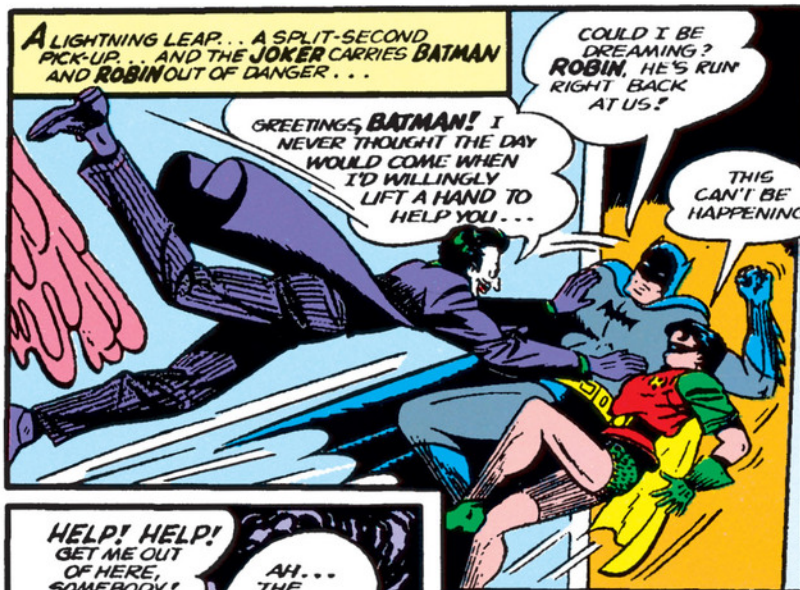
THE JOKER!

THE BATMAN AND ROBIN IN DANGER! I CAN'T LET THEM DIE... THIS TIME! THEY'VE GOT TO WITNESS MY INNOCENCE... BUT DARE I LET THIS FRAUD GO FREE?

TRAPPED ON THE HORNS OF DILEMMA, THE JOKER MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN REVENGE AND PROVING HIS INNOCENCE...

CAN'T TEAR YOU APART RIGHT NOW! IT'S MORE IMPORTANT FOR ME TO KEEP THE BATMAN ALIVE!

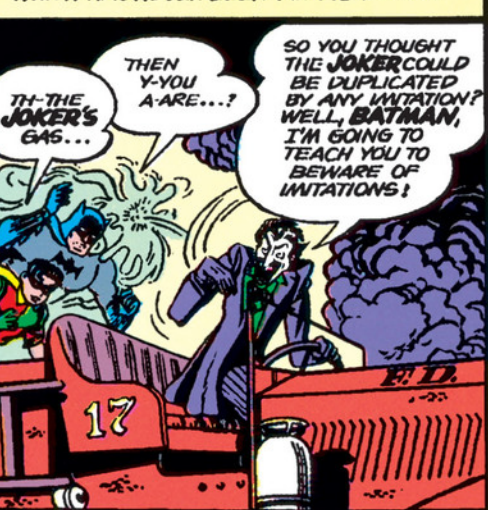
YOU'RE A FOOL, JOKER! YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME AGAIN!



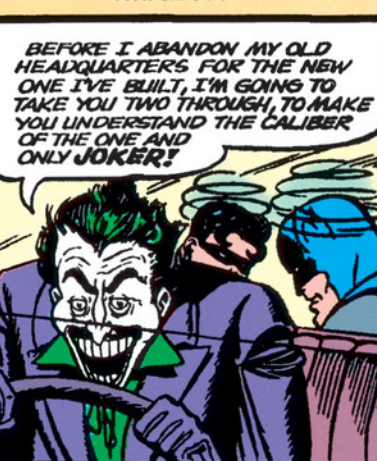
MOST IRONIC JEST OF ALL...THE JOKER CANNOT GAIN BELIEF WHEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS CHECKERED CAREER, HE TELLS THE TRUTH...



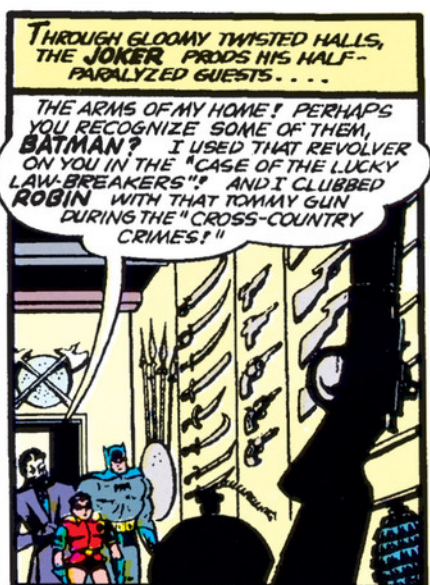
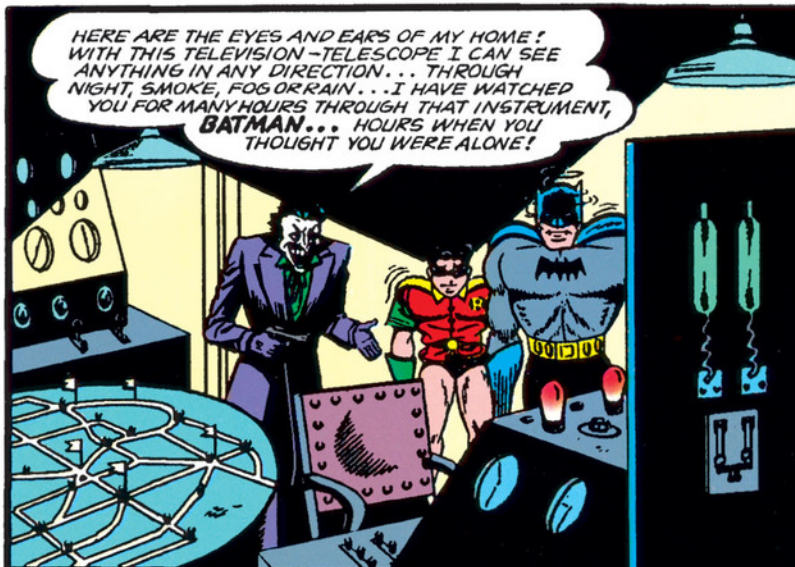
SUDDENLY COMES THE ONE SURE PROOF OF THE JOKER'S IDENTITY—THE JOKER'S GAS, WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN DUPLICATED...

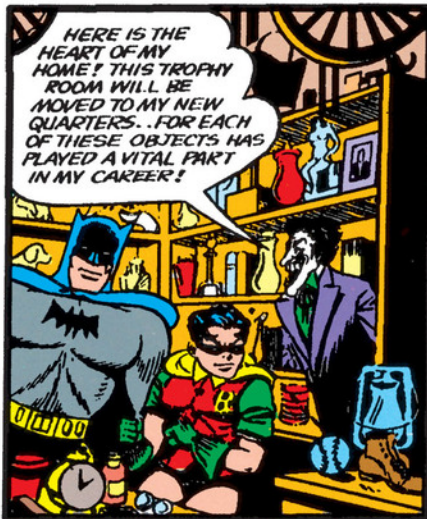


LIKE A FLAMING METEOR... THUNDERING DOWN THE ROAD, THE FIRE TRUCK FLASHES TO THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT, THE PRINCE OF PARADOX AT THE WHEEL...



ARRIVING AT THE JOKER'S HEADQUARTERS...





HERE IS THE HEART OF MY HOME! THIS TROPHY ROOM WILL BE MOVED TO MY NEW QUARTERS... FOR EACH OF THESE OBJECTS HAS PLAYED A VITAL PART IN MY CAREER!



THE PARALYSIS FADED FROM HIS BODY, ROBIN MAKES A HIGH-SPEED BID FOR FREEDOM....

ROBIN!

HERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S GOING TO PLAY ANOTHER VITAL PART IN YOUR CAREER, JOKER!

HAH! FREE ALREADY, EH? IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE I SEND YOU UNDER AGAIN!

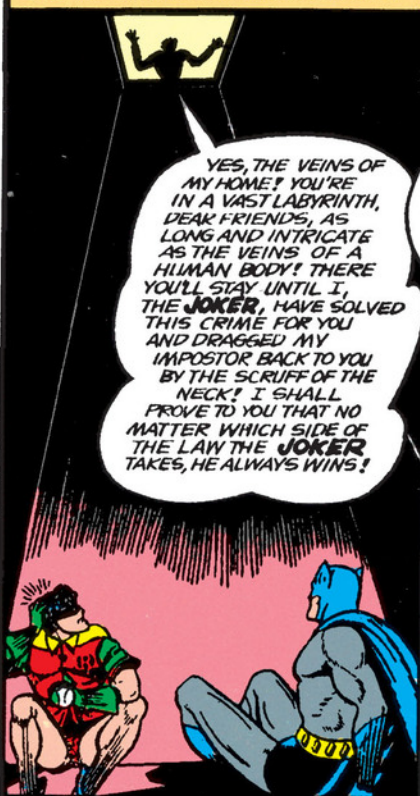


HEY!

RELAX, ROBIN, THIS LOOKS LIKE A LONG DROP!

THE HEART OF MY HOME LEADS TO THE VEINS OF MY HOME, GENTLEMEN... DON'T THINK I WASN'T PREPARED FOR THIS!

FIFTY FEET OVERHEAD, THE JOKER STANDS IN SINISTER SILHOUETTE...



YES, THE VEINS OF MY HOME! YOU'RE IN A VAST LABYRINTH, DEAR FRIENDS, AS LONG AND INTRICATE AS THE VEINS OF A HUMAN BODY! THERE YOU'LL STAY UNTIL I, THE JOKER, HAVE SOLVED THIS CRIME FOR YOU AND DRAGGED MY IMPOSTOR BACK TO YOU BY THE SCRUFF OF THE NECK! I SHALL PROVE TO YOU THAT NO MATTER WHICH SIDE OF THE LAW THE JOKER TAKES, HE ALWAYS WINS!

LIKE A CLAP OF DOOM, THE TRAPDOOR SLAMS, PLUNGING THE DUO INTO VELVET BLACKNESS...



GOLLY, WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THIS... BUT HOW? WE COULD WANDER THROUGH THESE PASSAGES FOREVER!

MAYBE NOT FOREVER! HMMM... LET ME HAVE THAT BALL! GOOD THING YOU BROUGHT IT ALONG!

A POWERFUL WRENCH OF WRISTS, AND BATMAN RIPS AWAY THE COVERING, REVEALING THE SPUN WOOL PACKING...



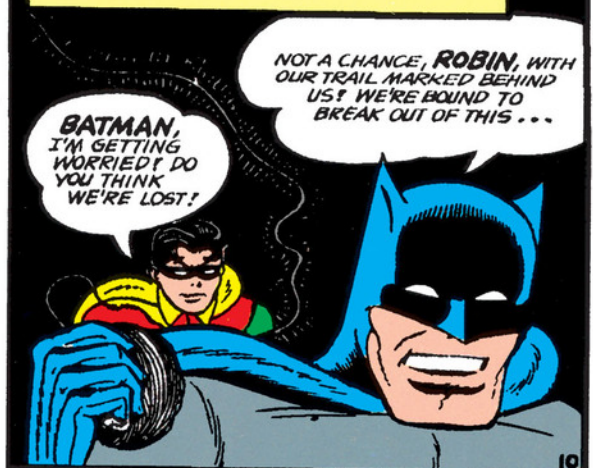
LUCKY WE'VE GOT THAT GLOWING FUNGUS PLANT OVERHEAD FOR A LITTLE LIGHT!

LUCKIER THAN YOU THINK! AS SOON AS I GET ONE END OF THIS BALL OF THREAD TIED DOWN I'LL SHOW YOU!



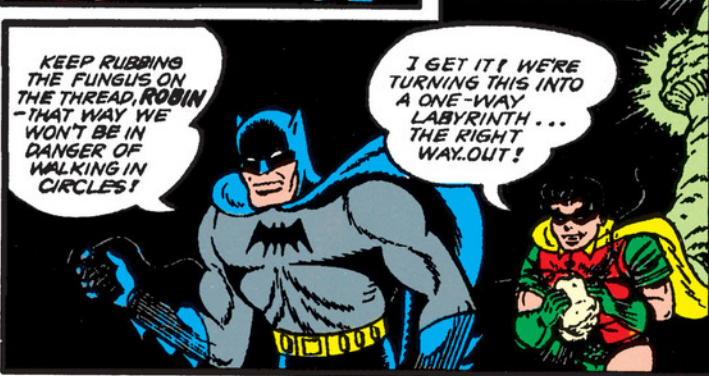
HANDFULS OF NATURE'S STRANGE, LUMINOUS PLANT ARE TURNED INTO FAINT TORCHES!

THE TWO COMPANIONS STUMBLE THROUGH THE TWISTED PASSAGES! MINUTES? HOURS? THERE IS NO TELLING WHICH IN THE SABLE SILENCE...



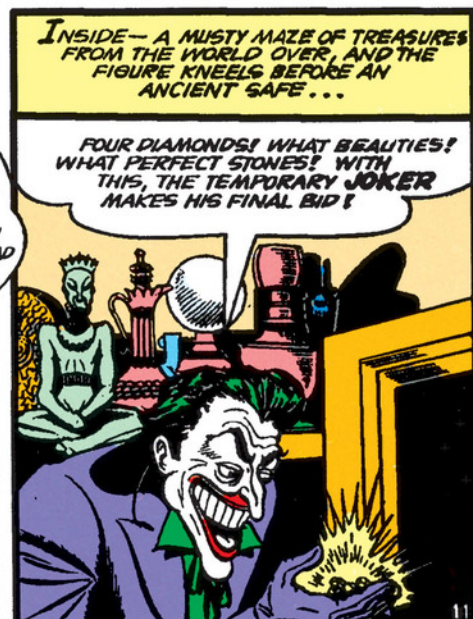
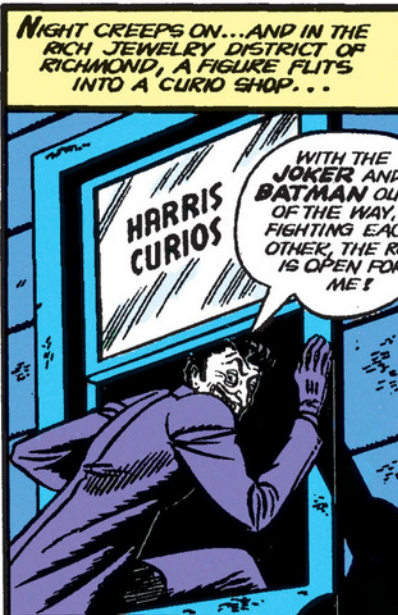
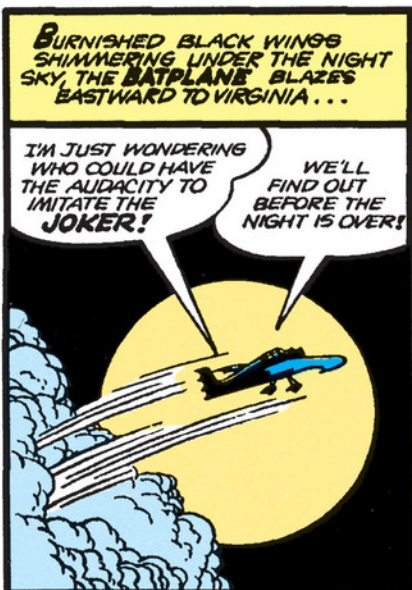
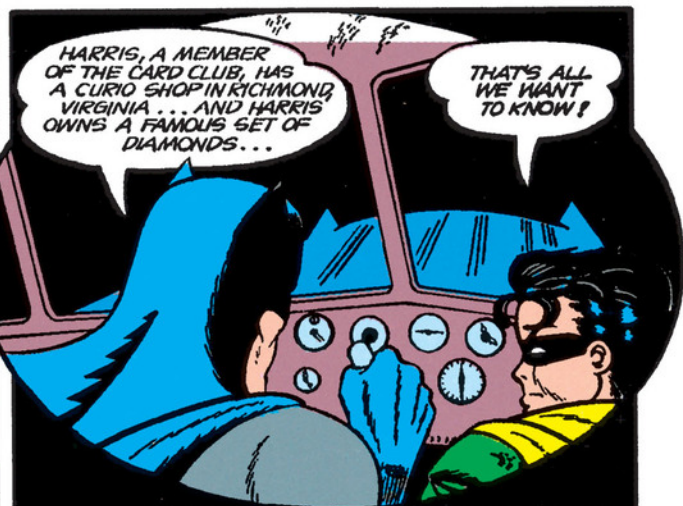
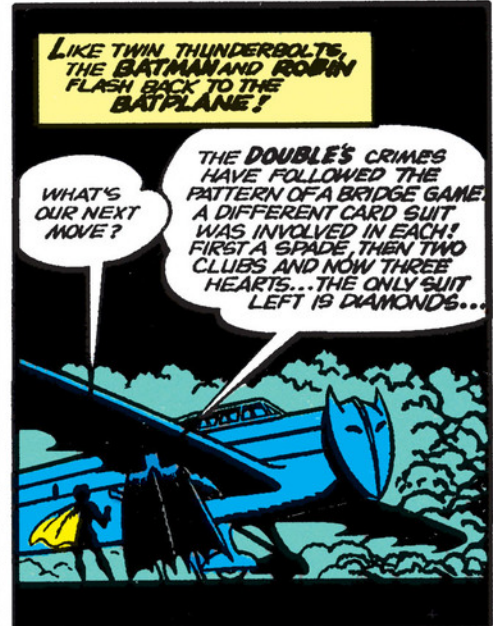
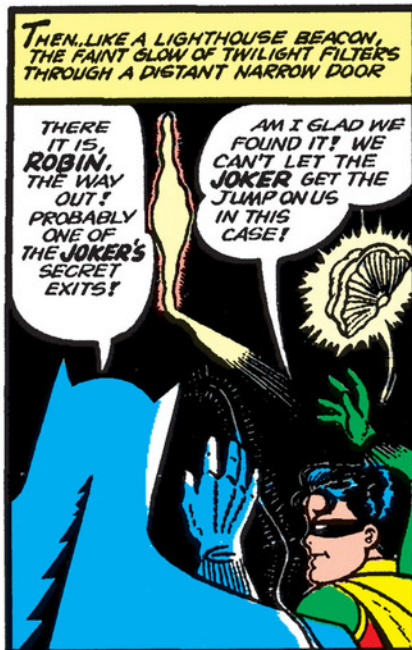
NOT A CHANCE, ROBIN, WITH OUR TRAIL MARKED BEHIND US! WE'RE BOUND TO BREAK OUT OF THIS...

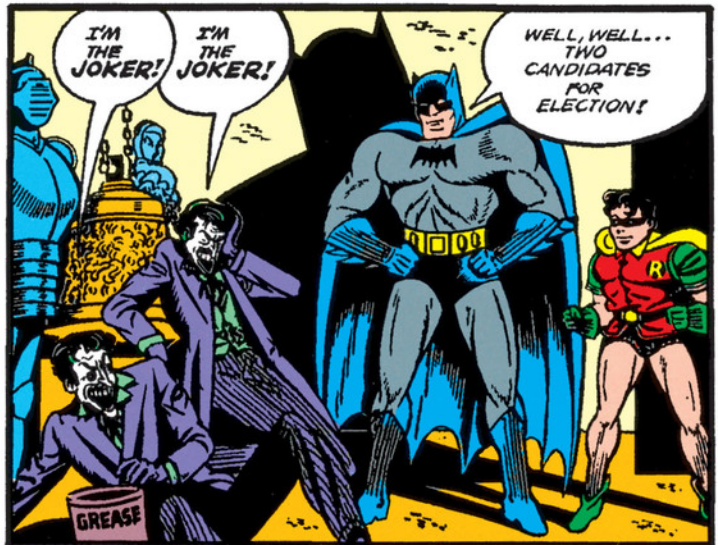
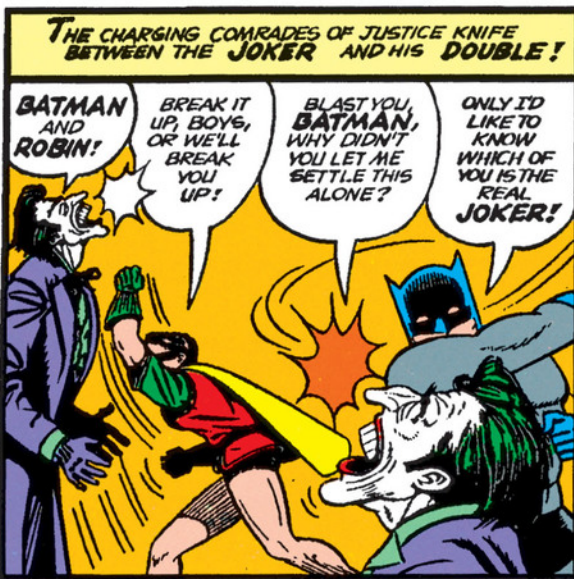
BATMAN, I'M GETTING WORRIED! DO YOU THINK WE'RE LOST!

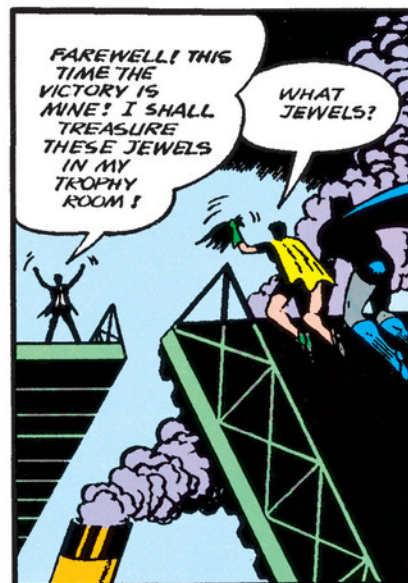
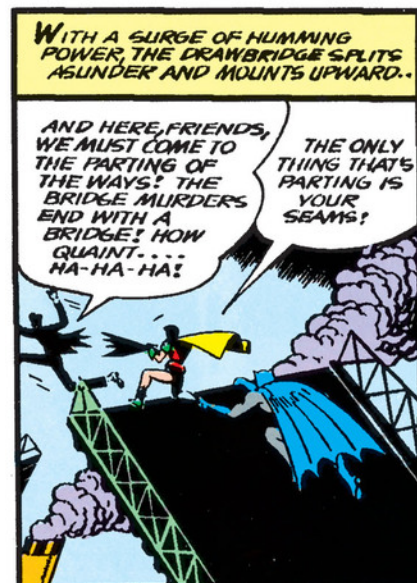
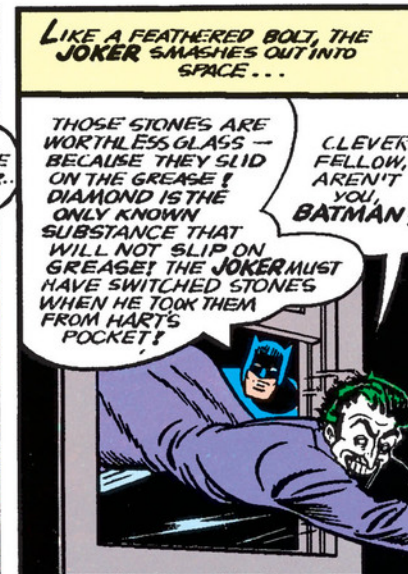
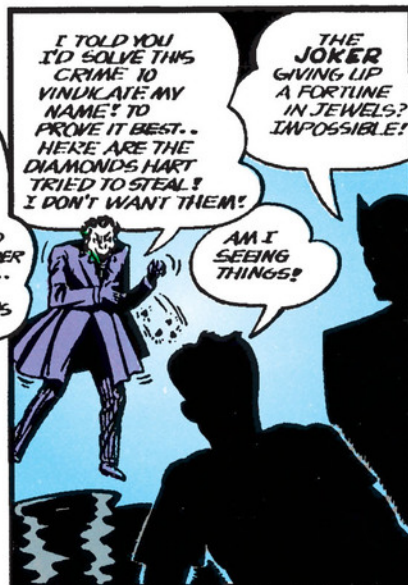


KEEP RUBBING THE FUNGUS ON THE THREAD, ROBIN - THAT WAY WE WON'T BE IN DANGER OF WALKING IN CIRCLES!

I GET IT! WE'RE TURNING THIS INTO A ONE-WAY LABYRINTH... THE RIGHT WAY OUT!







No. 13

SPRING ISSUE

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

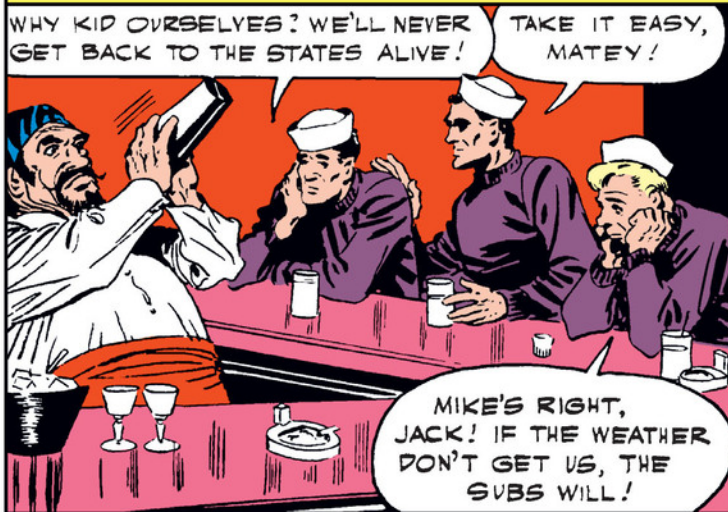
GOOD LUCK IS A WILL-O-
THE WISP WHICH ALL MEN
SEEK ! SOME IN HORSESHOES,
OTHERS IN LUCKY PENNIES...

BUT A FEW OF THOSE MOD-
ERN HEROES, THE MERCHANT
SEAMEN, WHO BRAVE THE
PERILOUS WAR-TIME DEEP
SO UNFLINCHINGLY, BELIEVE
THEY CAN FIND IT IN
RABBITS' FEET ! AND WHEN
MODERN HARPIES PREY
UPON THE HOPES AND FEARS
OF THESE GALLANT MAR-
INERS, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**
DEFY SEAGOING SUPER-
STITION TO SMASH...

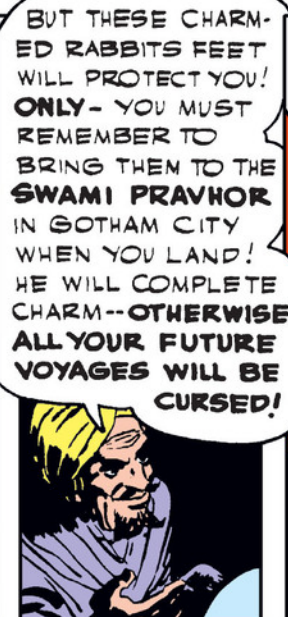
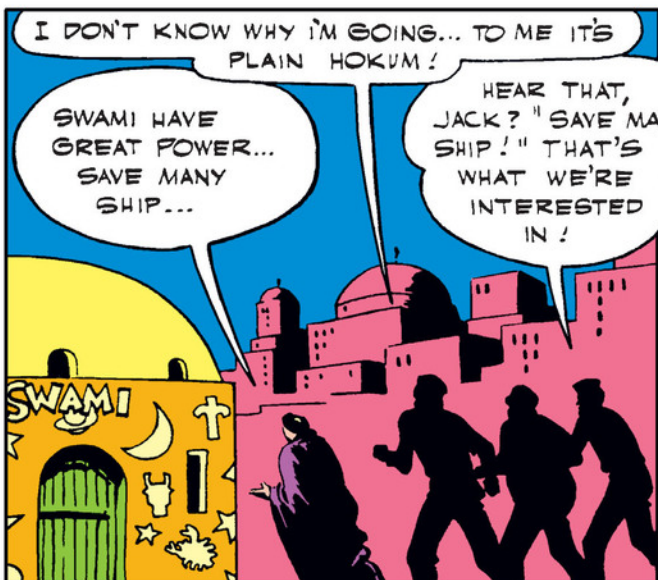
**"THE CURSE
OF ISIS !"**



AMERICAN MERCHANT SEAMEN GATHER IN A SOUTH AFRICAN BAR...



AN OLD HINDU MAKES A PROPOSAL TO THE WORRIED MARINERS...

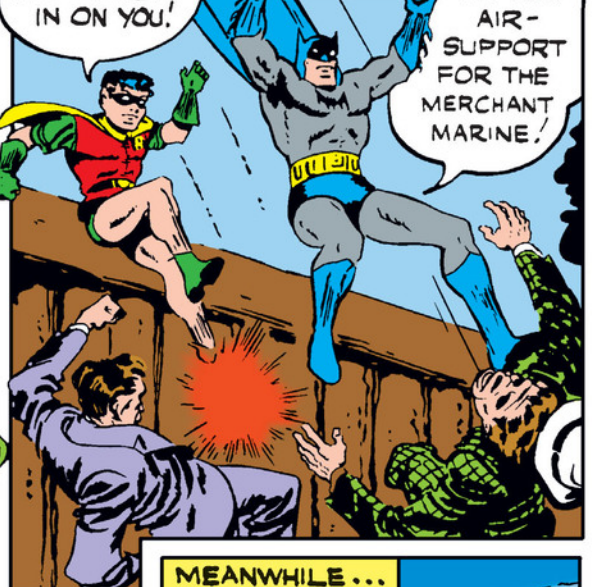
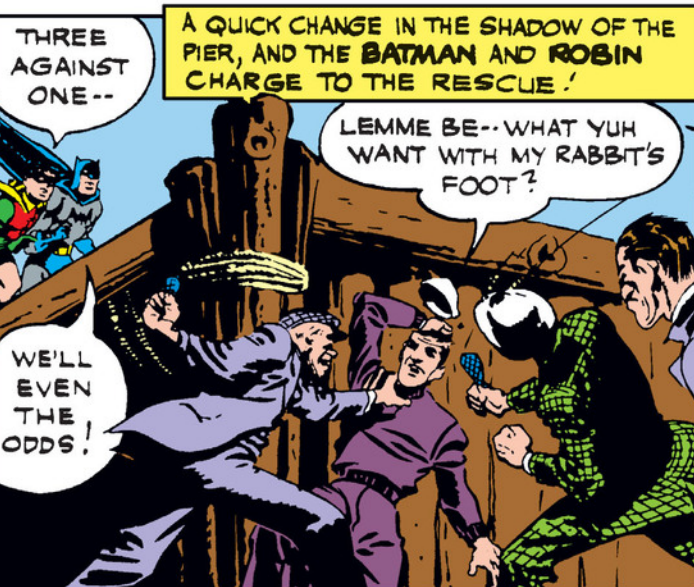
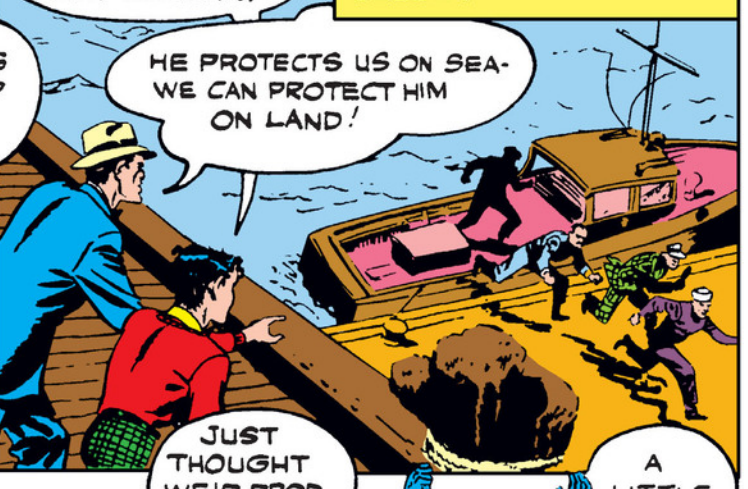
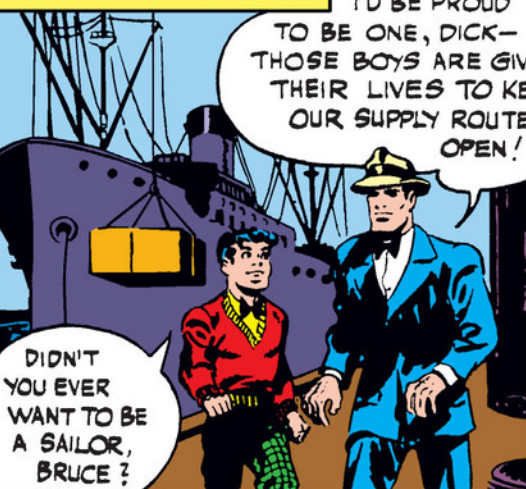


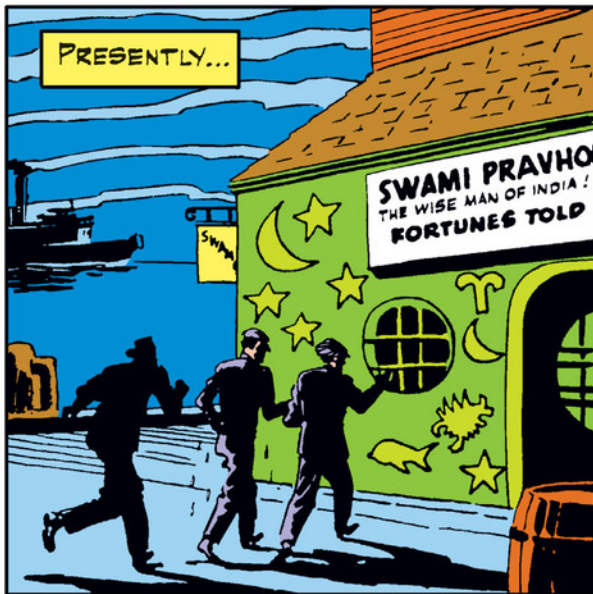
NOT LONG AFTERWARD, A BATTERED CONVOY PLOWS THROUGH THE STORM-SWEPT, SUB-INFESTED WATERS OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC-- ITS DESTINATION, GOTHAM CITY, U.S.A. WILL THE CHARM OF THE SWAMI BRING THE THREE SEAMEN TO LAND AND SAFETY?

IN GOTHAM CITY, SOME TIME LATER... DICK GRAYSON AND BRUCE WAYNE ARE STROLLING ALONG THE WATERFRONT...

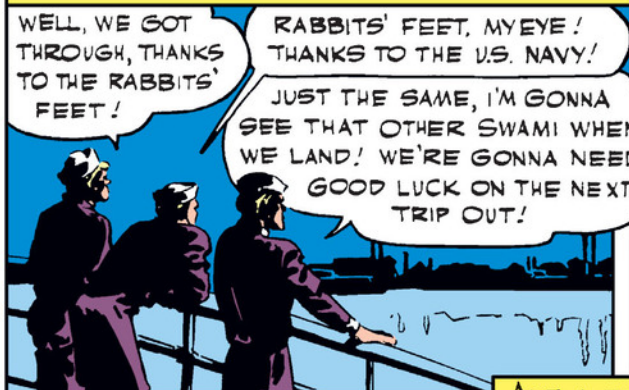
LOOK-- THOSE TOUGHS ARE AFTER THAT SEAMAN!

...WHEN A COMMOTION BREAKS OUT ON A SMALL LAUNCH BELOW!



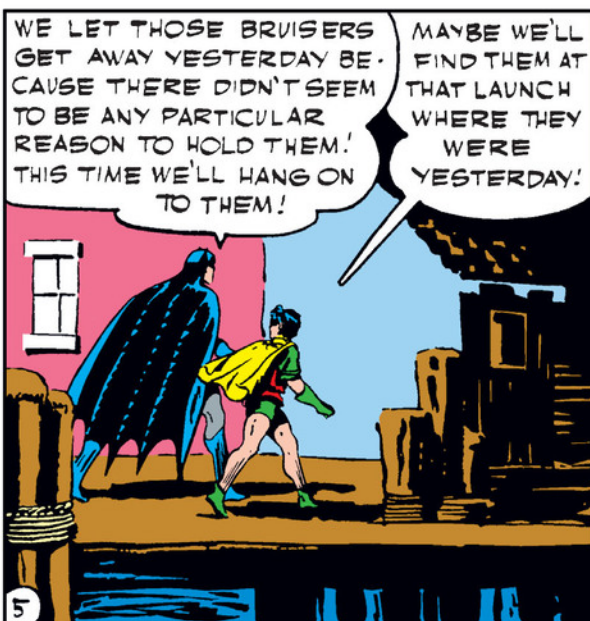
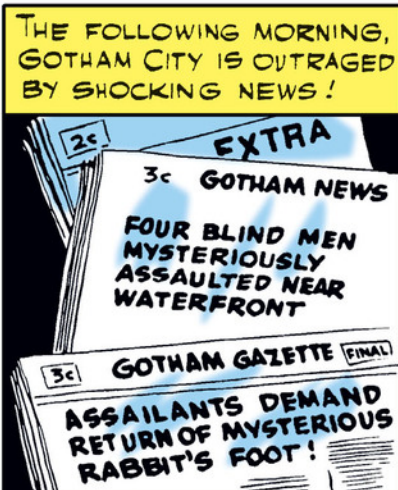
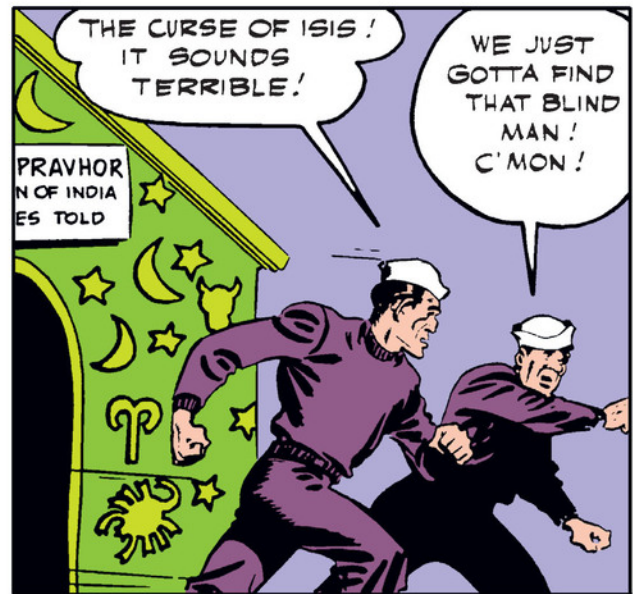


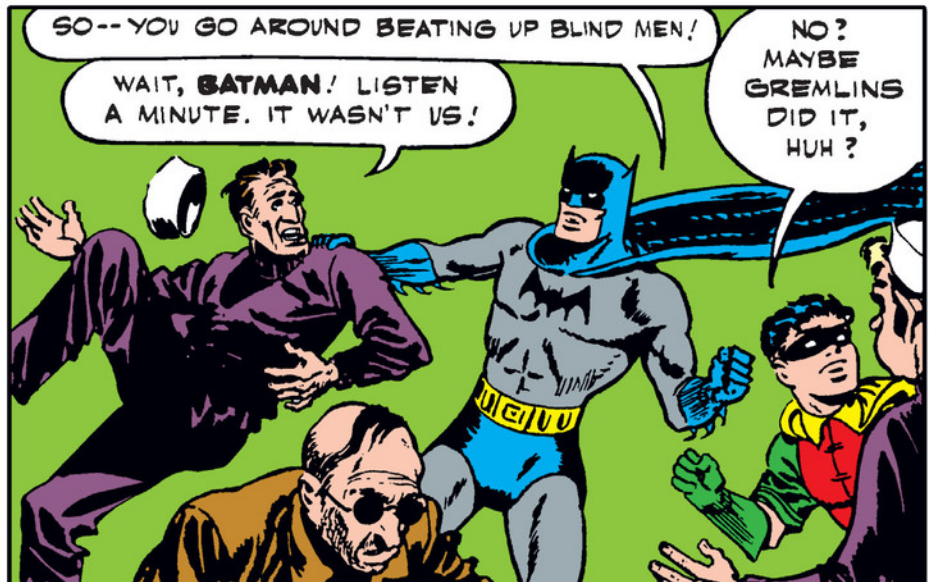
SURE ENOUGH, INTO THE HAVEN OF GOTHAM HARBOR AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IS STEAMING THE CONVOY BEARING OUR THREE SAILOR FRIENDS. WAS IT REALLY THE CHARM OF THE SWAMI THAT BROUGHT THEM THROUGH? LET'S SEE WHAT THEY THINK



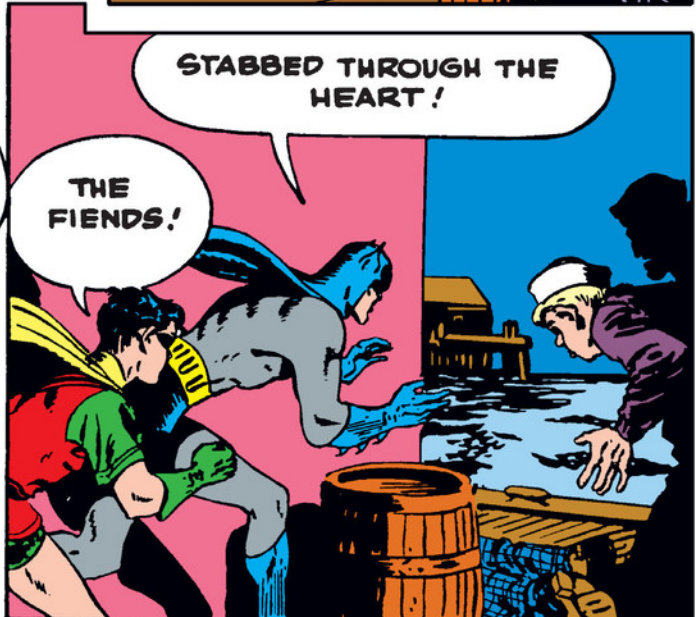
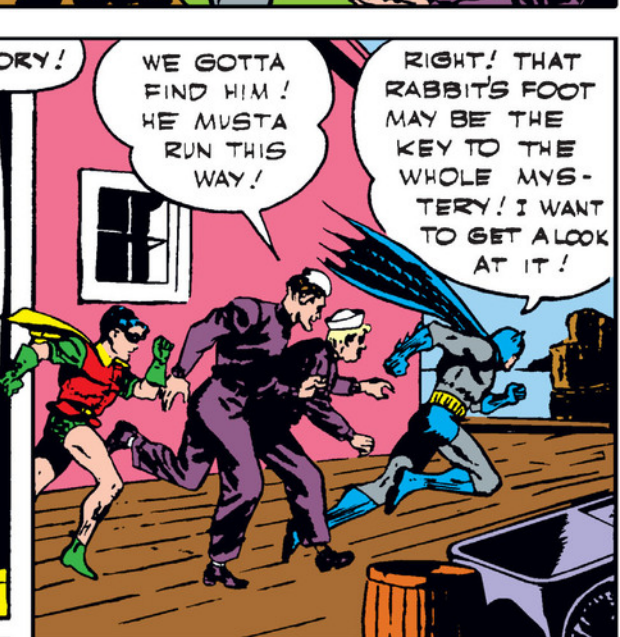
AND A FEW MINUTES LATER-- AT THE SHACK OF THE SWAMI...

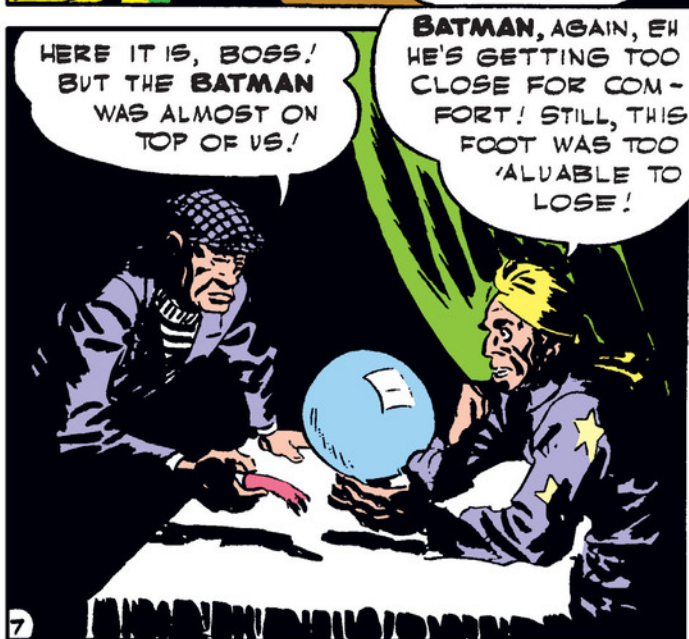
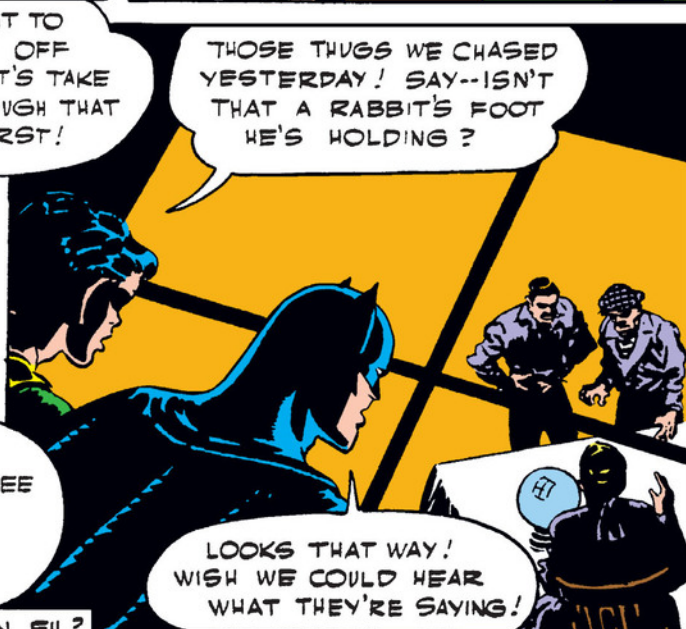
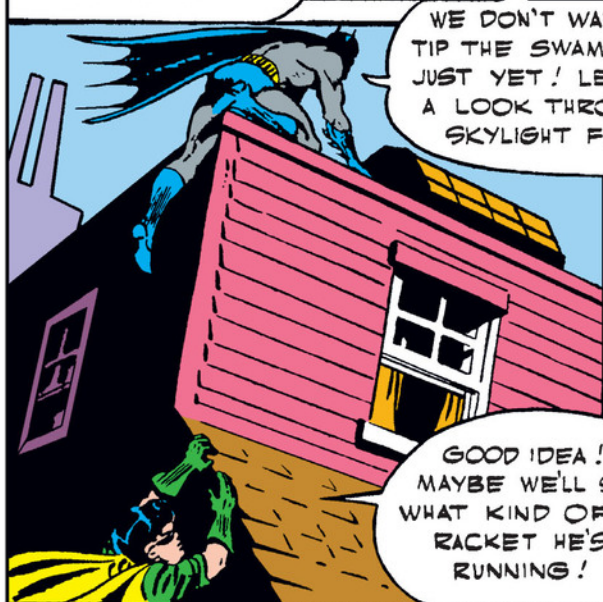
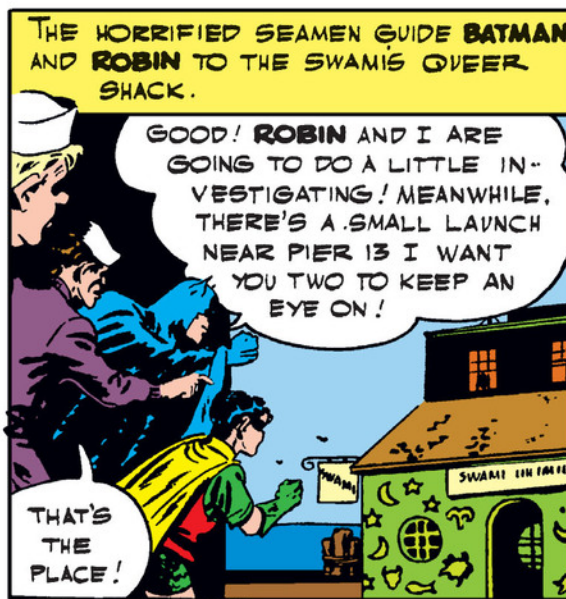
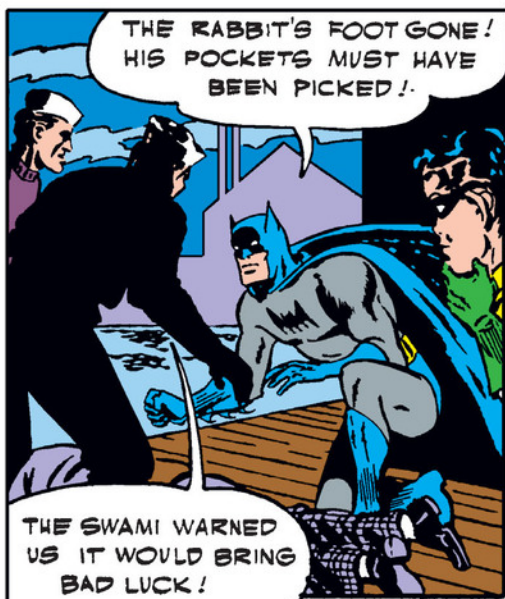


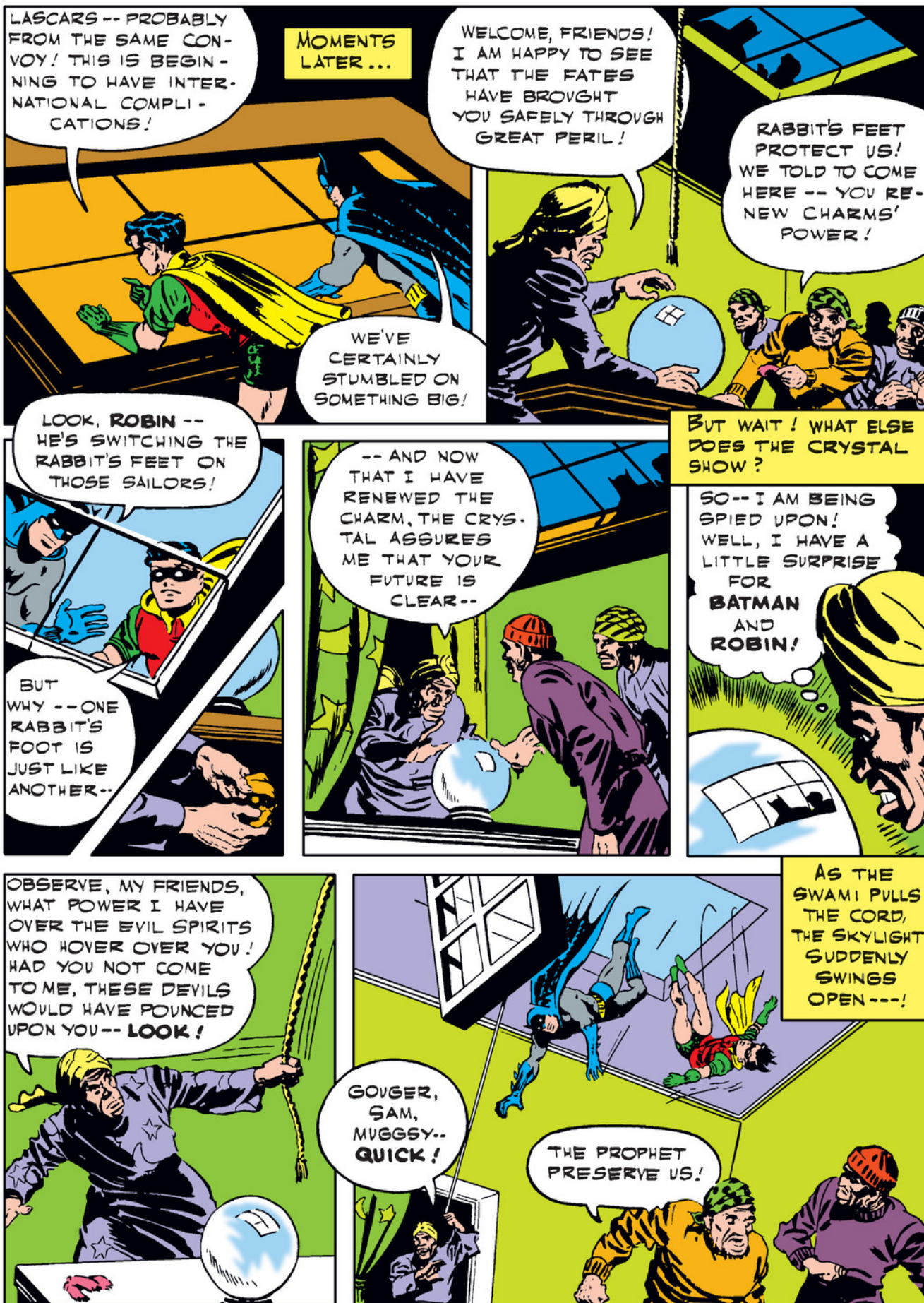




HASTILY, THE SEAMEN
RELATE THE STORY OF
THE RABBIT'S FEET AND
THE SWAMI'S GRIM IN-
JUNCTION TO OBTAIN
THE MISSING ONE







LASCARS -- PROBABLY FROM THE SAME CONVOY! THIS IS BEGINNING TO HAVE INTERNATIONAL COMPLI-CATIONS!

MOMENTS LATER...

WELCOME, FRIENDS! I AM HAPPY TO SEE THAT THE FATES HAVE BROUGHT YOU SAFELY THROUGH GREAT PERIL!

RABBIT'S FEET PROTECT US! WE TOLD TO COME HERE -- YOU RE-NEW CHARMS' POWER!

WE'VE CERTAINLY STUMBLED ON SOMETHING BIG!

LOOK, ROBIN -- HE'S SWITCHING THE RABBIT'S FEET ON THOSE SAILORS!

BUT WHY -- ONE RABBIT'S FOOT IS JUST LIKE ANOTHER--

-- AND NOW THAT I HAVE RENEWED THE CHARM, THE CRYSTAL ASSURES ME THAT YOUR FUTURE IS CLEAR--

BUT WAIT! WHAT ELSE DOES THE CRYSTAL SHOW?

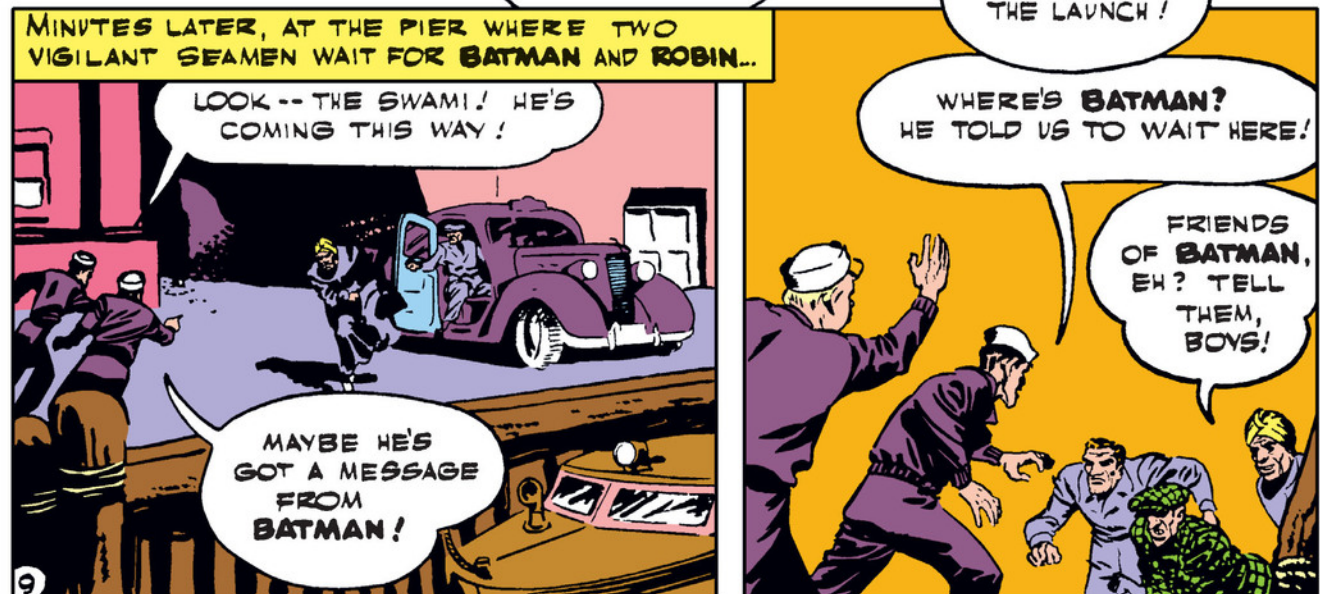
SO-- I AM BEING SPIED UPON! WELL, I HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!

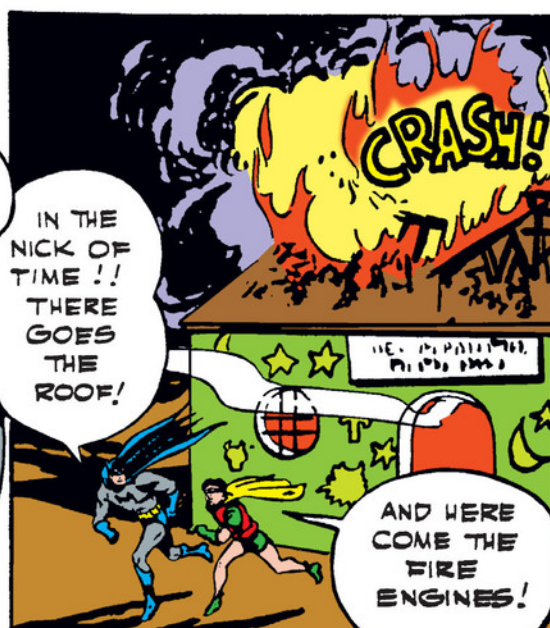
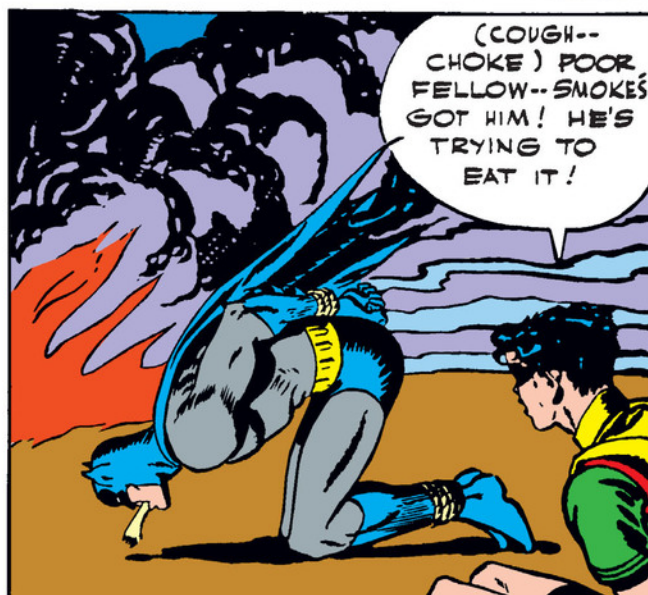
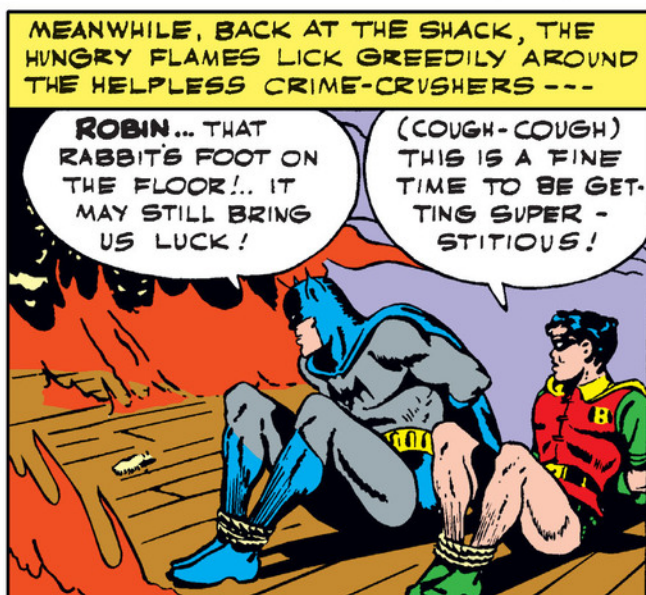
OBSERVE, MY FRIENDS, WHAT POWER I HAVE OVER THE EVIL SPIRITS WHO HOVER OVER YOU! HAD YOU NOT COME TO ME, THESE DEVILS WOULD HAVE POUNCED UPON YOU-- LOOK!

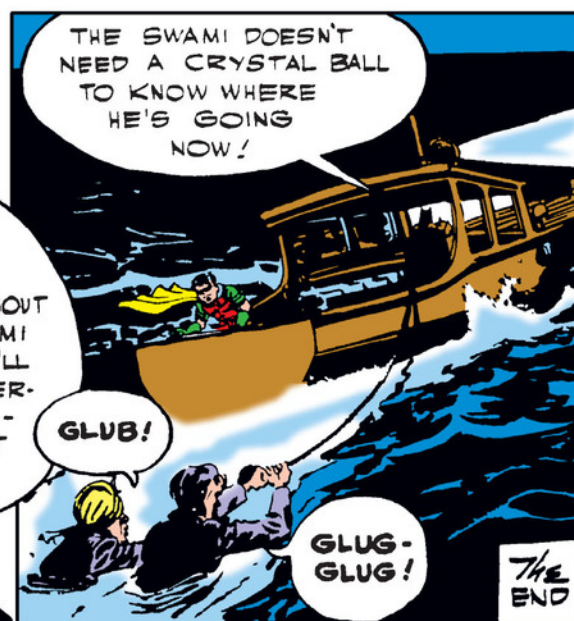
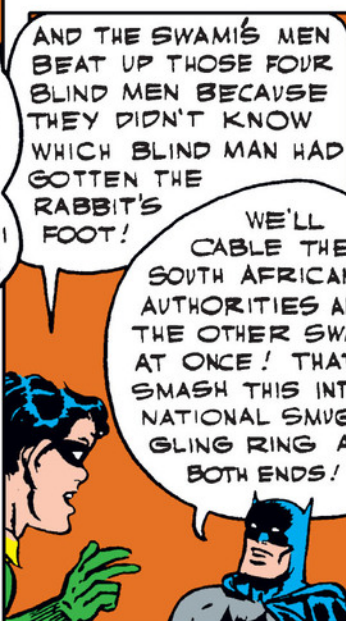
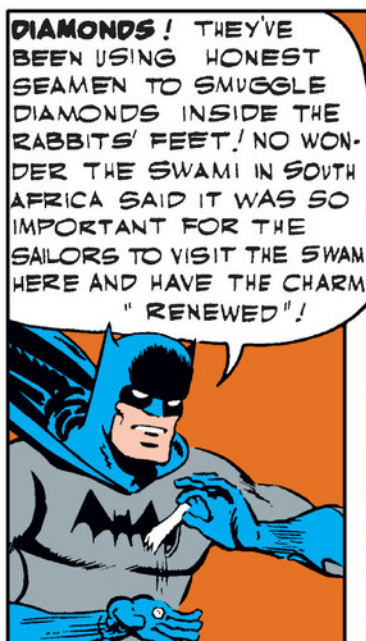
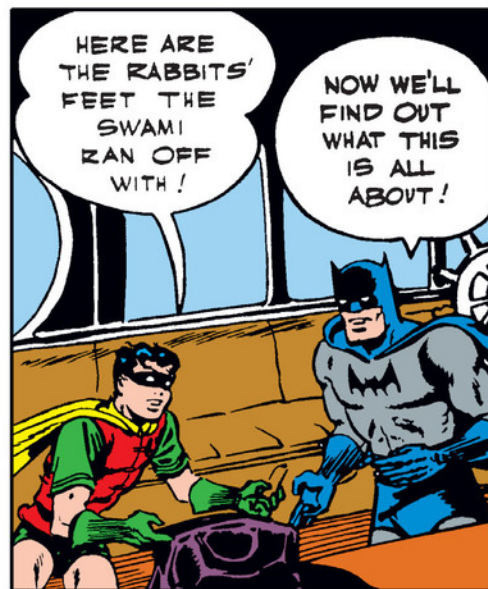
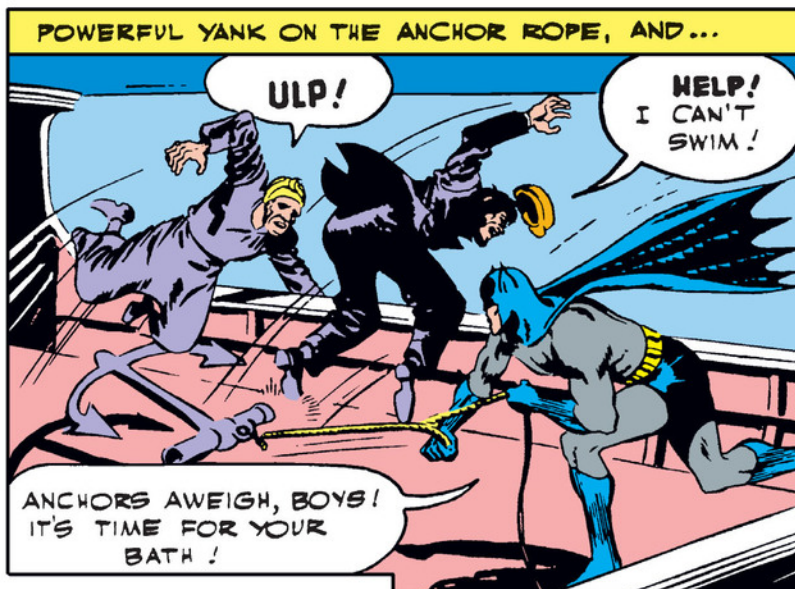
GOVGER, SAM, MUGGSY-- QUICK!

AS THE SWAMI PULLS THE CORD, THE SKYLIGHT SUDDENLY SWINGS OPEN ---!

THE PROPHET PRESERVE US!







BATMAN
No.22

APRIL...MAY



BATMAN

**EXTRA ADDED
ATTRACTION:
"THE ADVENTURES
OF ALFRED"**



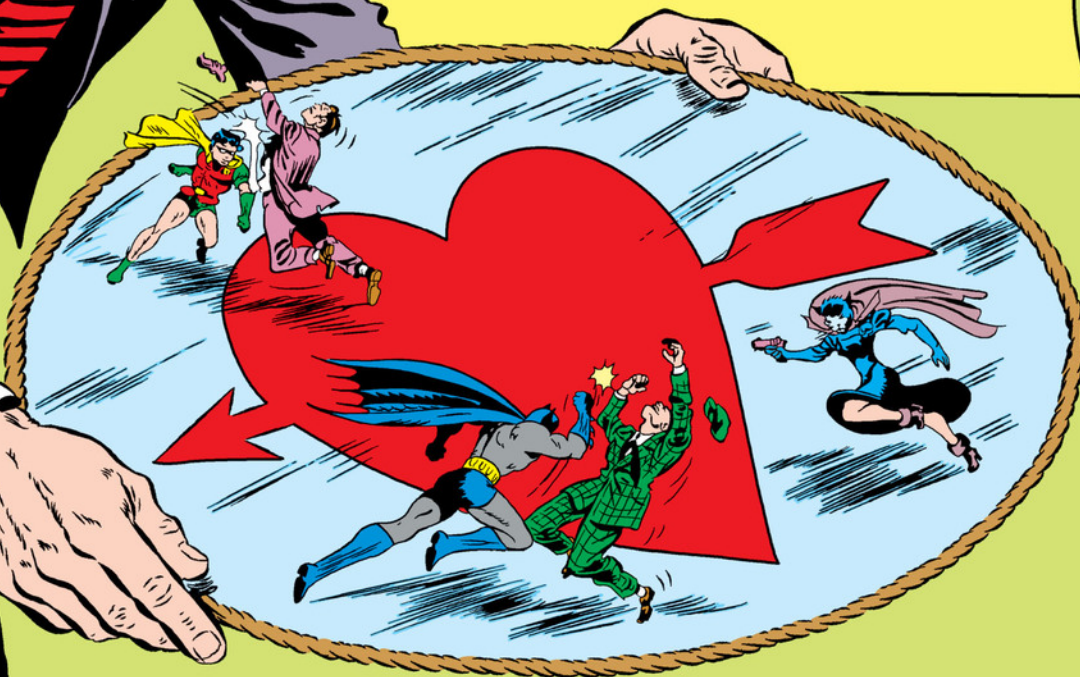
BATMAN

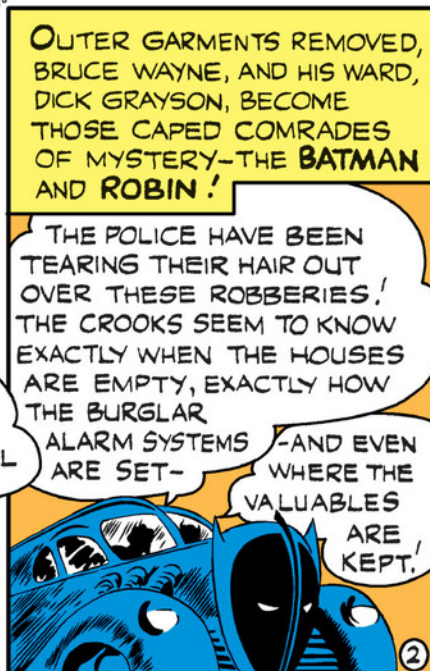
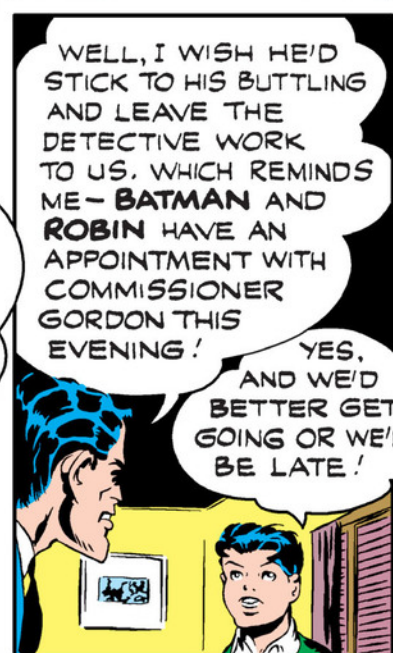
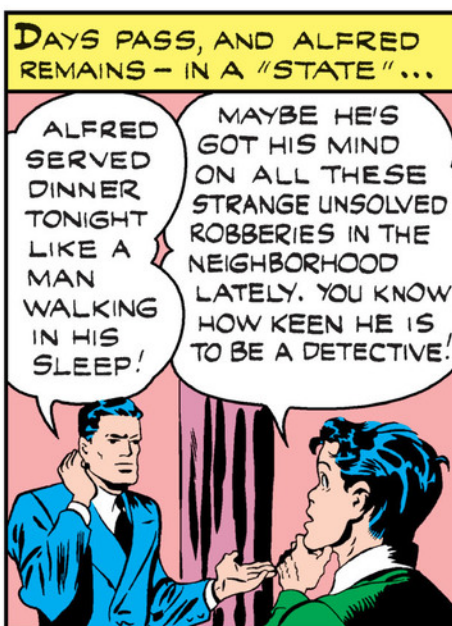
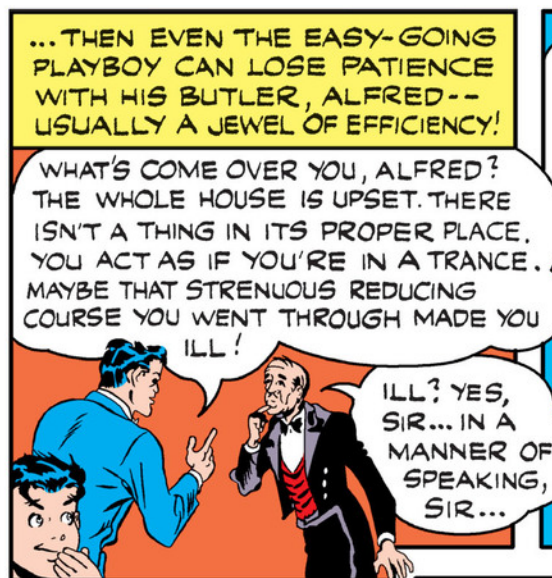
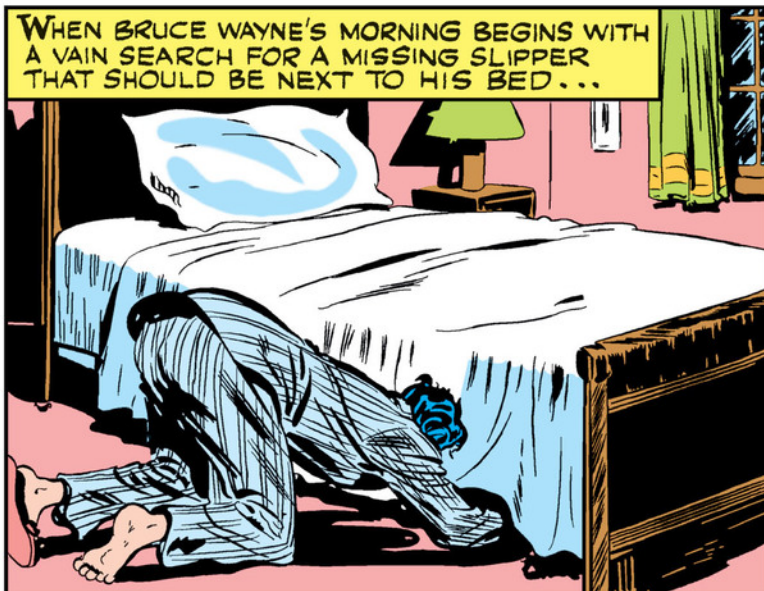
WITH
ROBIN

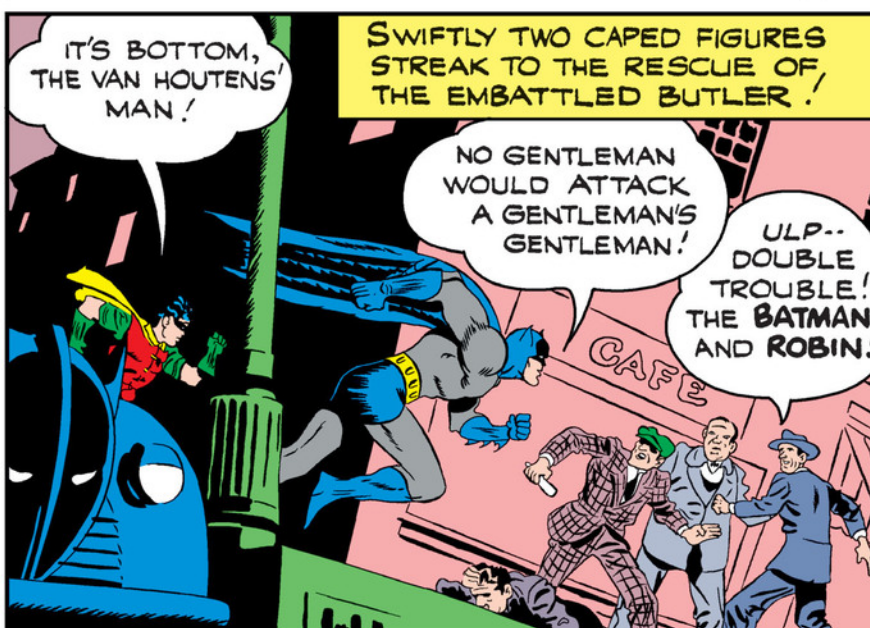
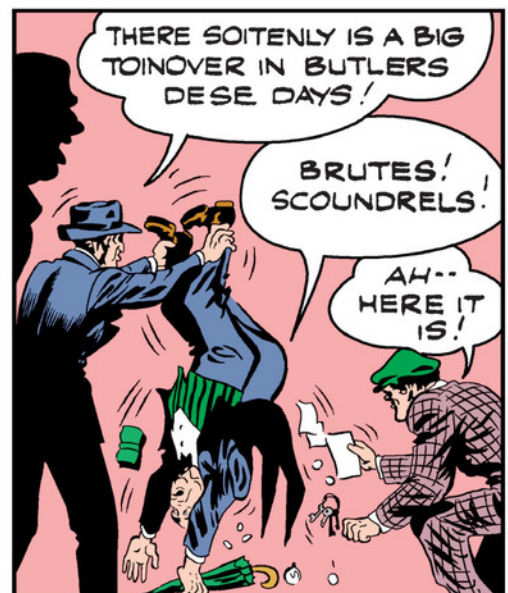
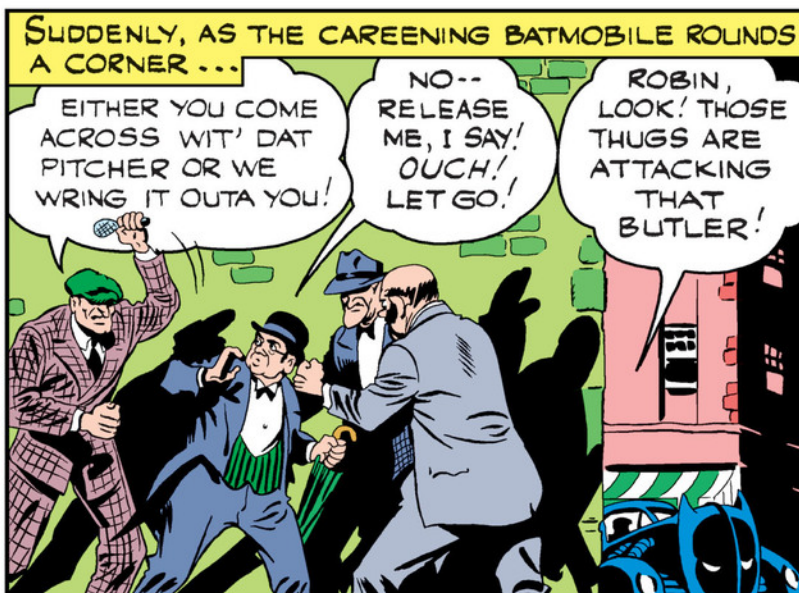
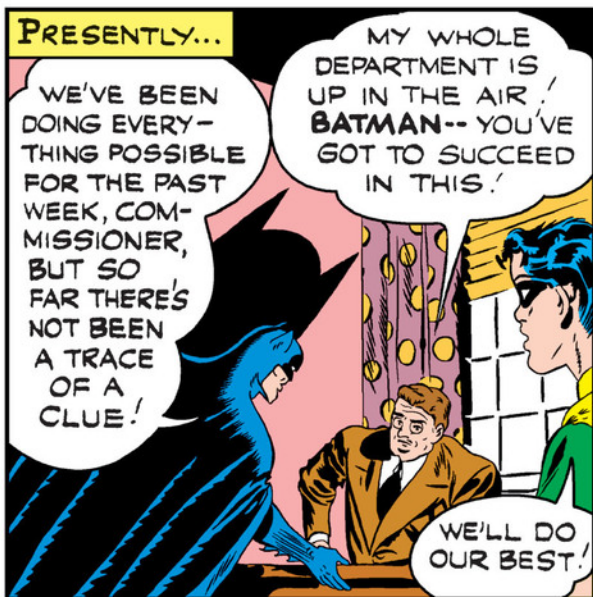
-THE BOY WONDER-

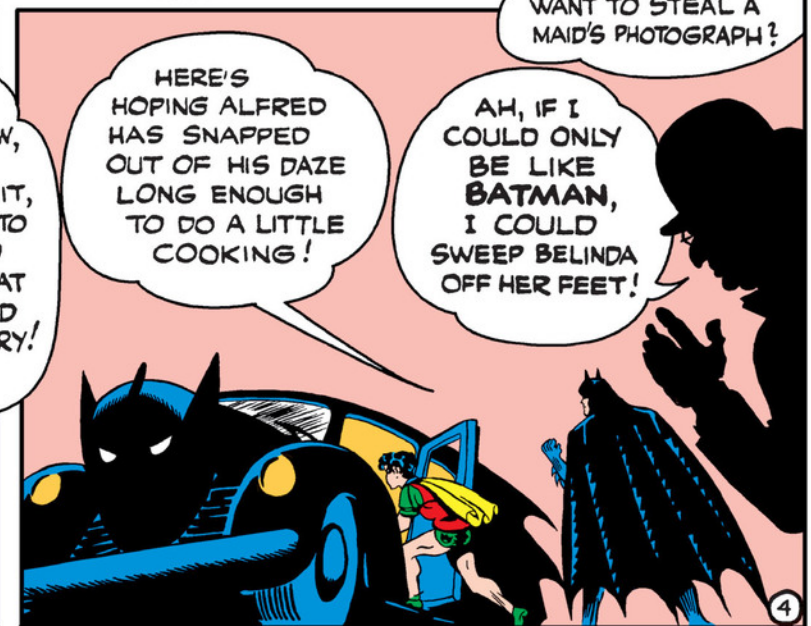
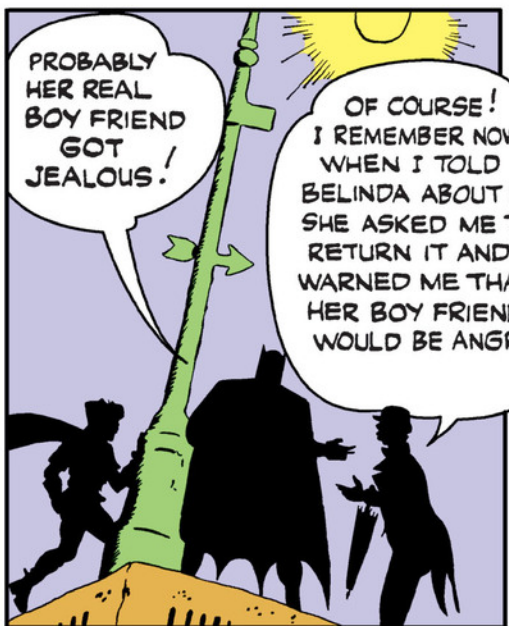
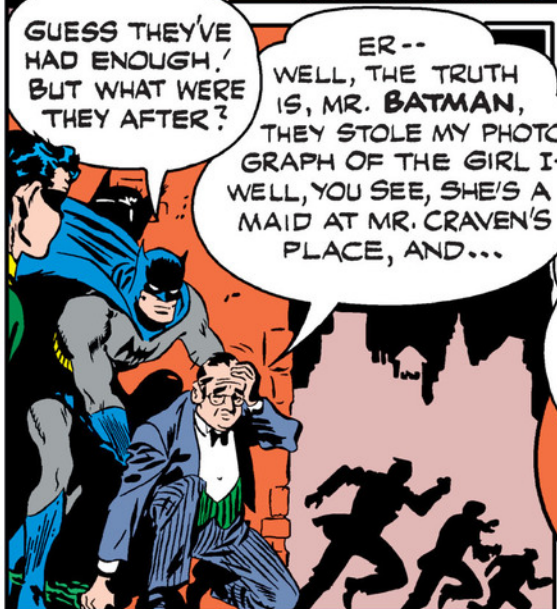
BEAUTY MAKES MEN DO STRANGE THINGS, FOR IT IS A HEADY WINE THAT CONQUERS REASON AND OBSCURES THE SIGHT! BUT WHEN A FAIR DAMOSEL TAKES HEARTS BY STORM AND BARTERS THEM IN A CROOKED GAME OF GAIN, THEN BEWARE THE RIGHT-EOUS WRATH OF THE ROMANTIC ROMEO! THE **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** FIND A CRIME NEST CONCEALED BEHIND A HEART-FEST WHEN CUPID'S DARTS HURL HAVOC INTO THEIR HAPPY HOUSEHOLD IN THE TALE OF...

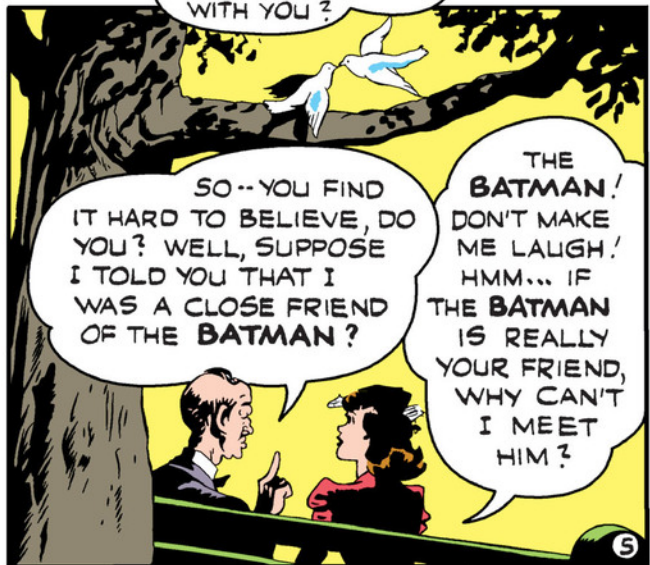
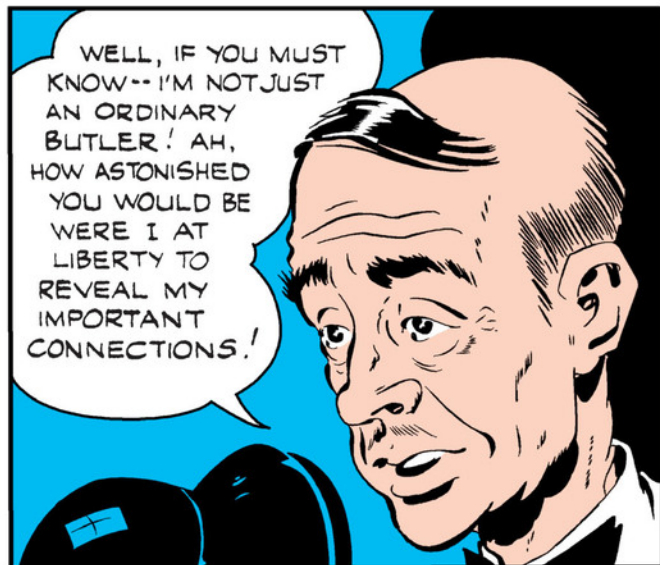
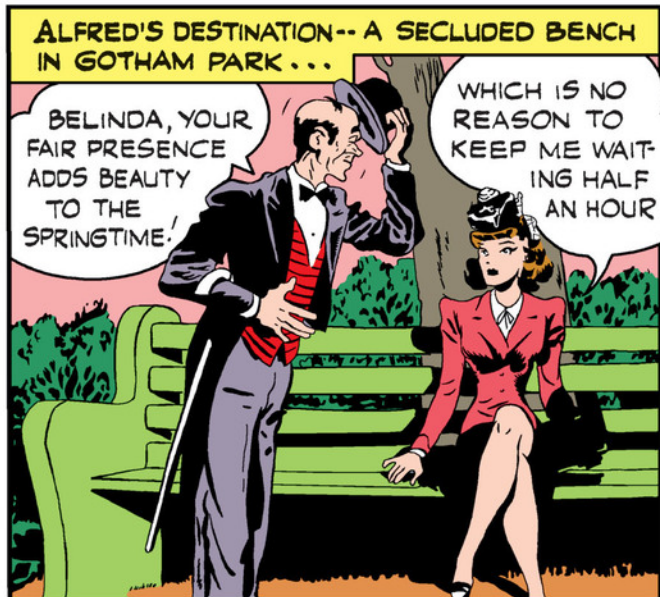
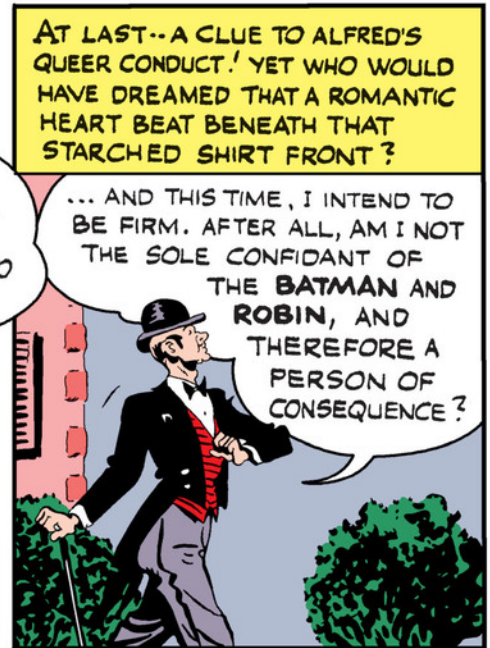
"THE DUPED DOMESTICS!"

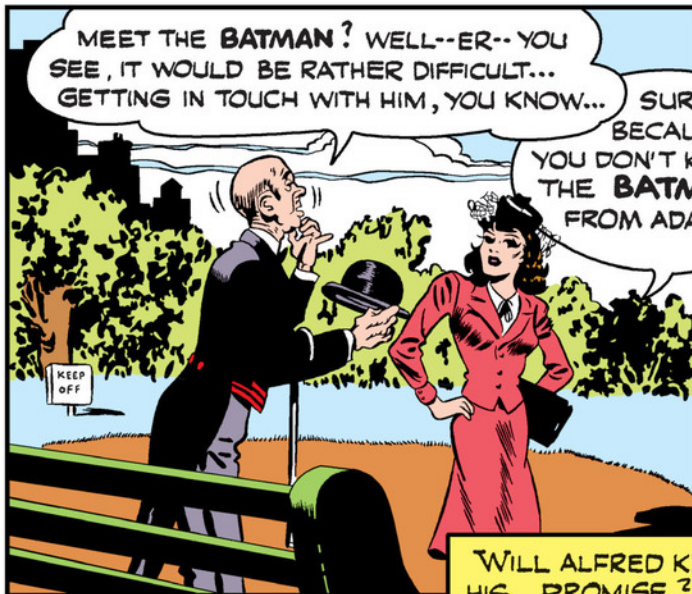












MEET THE **BATMAN**? WELL--ER-- YOU SEE, IT WOULD BE RATHER DIFFICULT... GETTING IN TOUCH WITH HIM, YOU KNOW...

SURE-- BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW THE **BATMAN** FROM ADAM!



IS THAT SO? THEN I'LL JUST SHOW YOU. YOU WAIT HERE AND I'LL SEE THAT YOU MEET THE **BATMAN**. I CAN'T BE BACK MYSELF BECAUSE--ER-- I'VE SOME IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO TRANSACT...



HMPH--CALLING ME A LIAR.

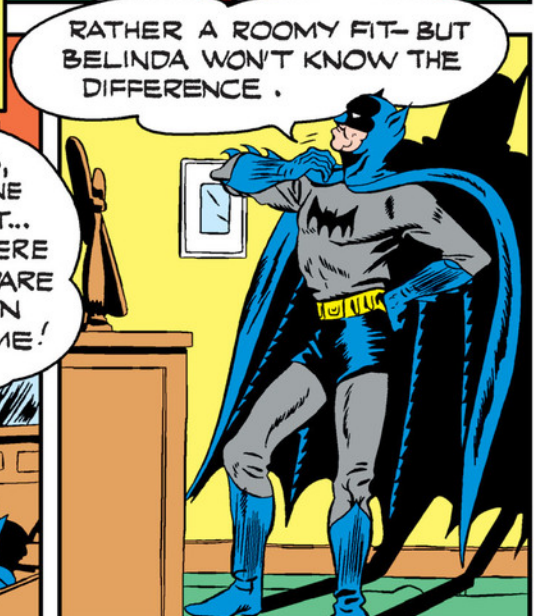
REMEMBER-- DON'T GO AWAY!

HE ACTS AS IF HE MEANS IT... WELL, I'LL BE PREPARED!

WILL ALFRED KEEP HIS PROMISE? ALAS, WHO KNOWS TO WHAT AN OUTRAGED HEART MAY STOOP? LATER...



I KNOW I SHOULDN'T DO THIS, BUT SURELY MR. WAYNE WILL BE INDULGENT... LUCKY I KNOW WHERE HE KEEPS HIS SPARE **BATMAN** COSTUME!



RATHER A ROOMY FIT-- BUT BELINDA WON'T KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

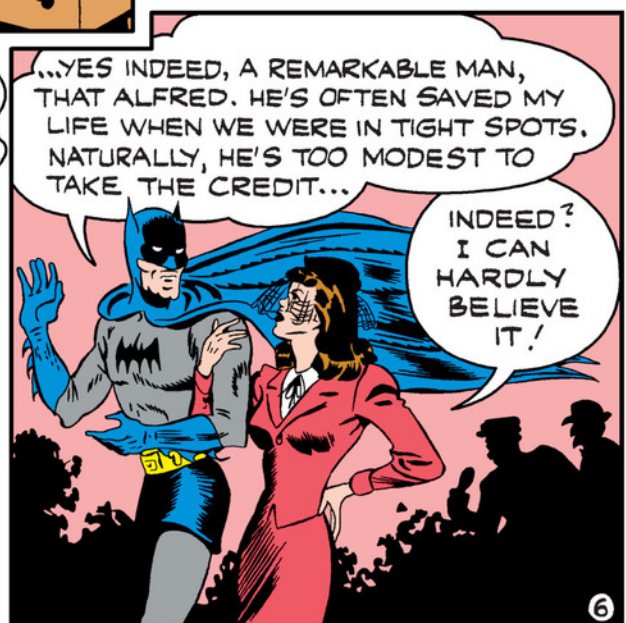


SO, LATER, A DISGUISED ALFRED APPROACHES THE APPOINTED SPOT...

AH-- YOU MUST BE BELINDA! MY VERY DEAR FRIEND, ALFRED, TOLD ME I WOULD FIND YOU HERE!

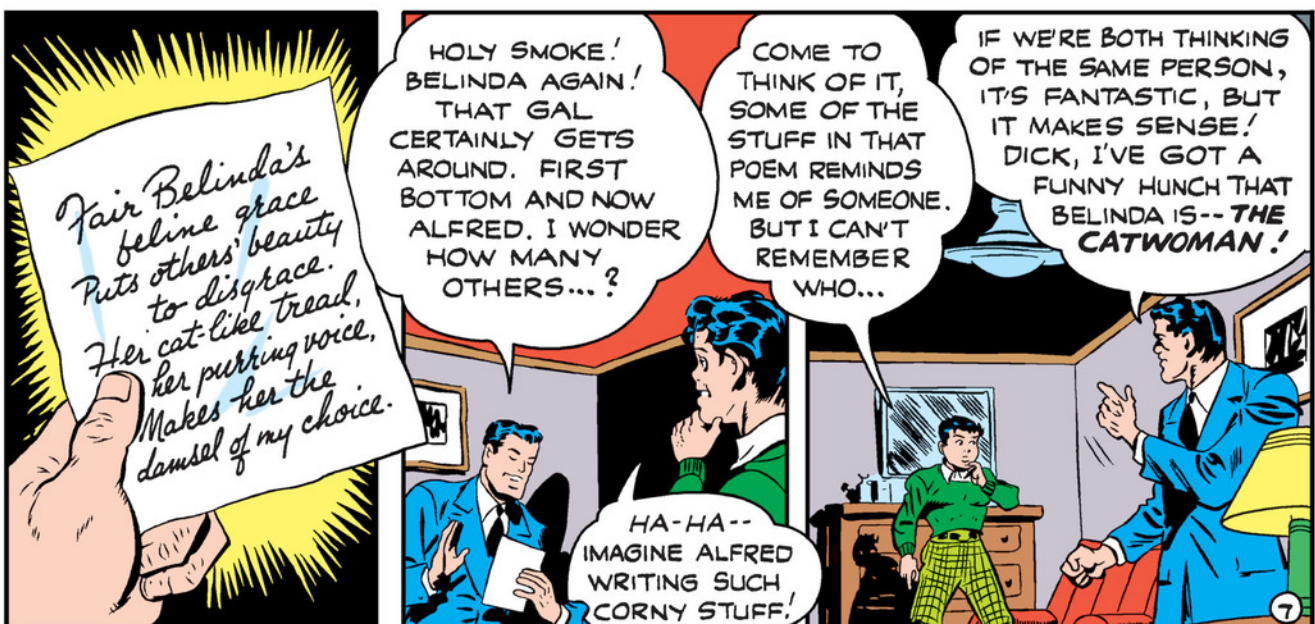
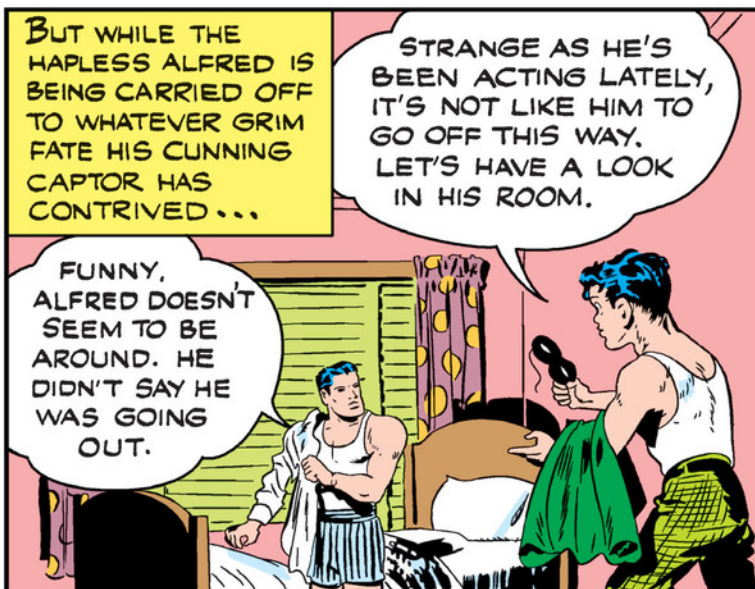
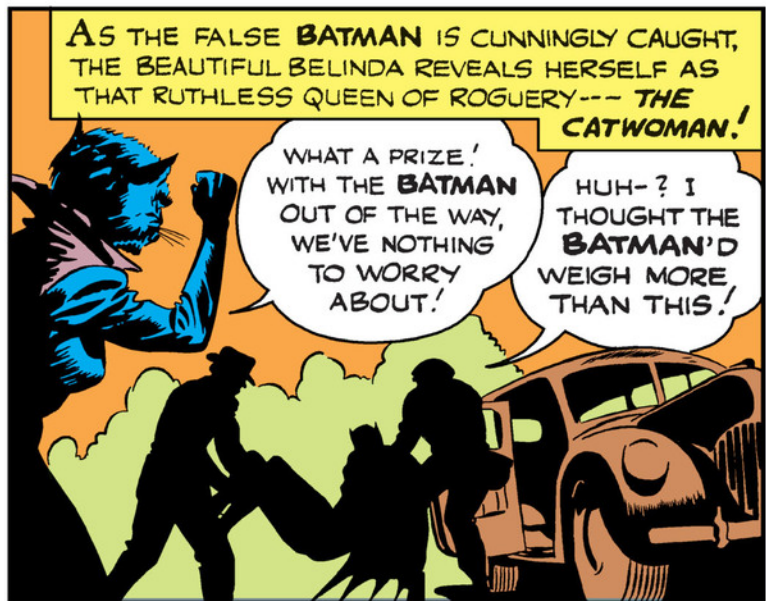
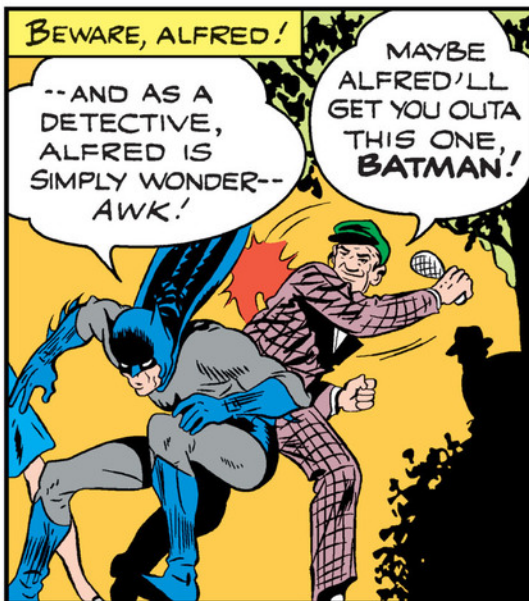
IT'S REALLY HE! LUCKY I WORE THIS VEIL. BUT HE CERTAINLY LOST WEIGHT SINCE...

OH, **BATMAN**!



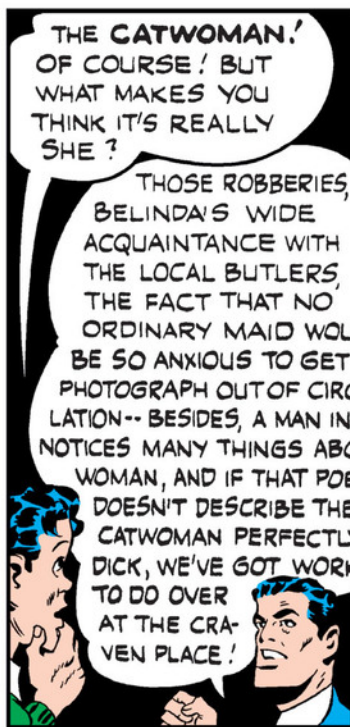
...YES INDEED, A REMARKABLE MAN, THAT ALFRED. HE'S OFTEN SAVED MY LIFE WHEN WE WERE IN TIGHT SPOTS. NATURALLY, HE'S TOO MODEST TO TAKE THE CREDIT...

INDEED? I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT!



THE CATWOMAN!
OF COURSE! BUT
WHAT MAKES YOU
THINK IT'S REALLY
SHE?

THOSE ROBBERIES,
BELINDA'S WIDE
ACQUAINTANCE WITH
THE LOCAL BUTLERS,
THE FACT THAT NO
ORDINARY MAID WOULD
BE SO ANXIOUS TO GET A
PHOTOGRAPH OUT OF CIRCULATION-- BESIDES, A MAN IN LOVE
NOTICES MANY THINGS ABOUT A
WOMAN, AND IF THAT POEM
DOESN'T DESCRIBE THE
CATWOMAN PERFECTLY--
DICK, WE'VE GOT WORK
TO DO OVER
AT THE CRAVEN
PLACE!



BUT IF THE CATWOMAN
IS POSING AS A MAID
THERE, HADN'T WE BETTER
GO AS BATMAN AND
ROBIN?

NO, WE'RE STILL
NOT SURE. THIS
TIME, WE'RE GOING
TO PAY A NEIGHBORLY
VISIT TO MR.
CRAVEN SO WE
CAN DO SOME
QUIET SNOOPING
AROUND.



A FEW MINUTES LATER, AT THE
CRAVEN HOMESTEAD...

--AND I
FELT THAT
SINCE WE'RE
NEIGHBORS
WE OWED
YOU A
VISIT.

COME RIGHT
IN, SIRS!
DELIGHTED!

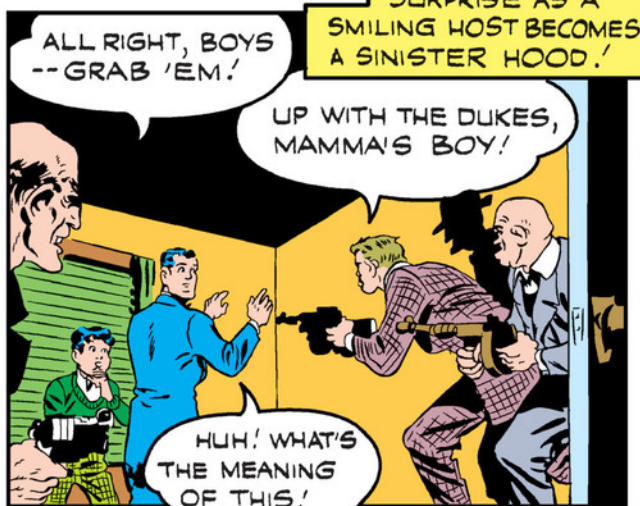


ALL RIGHT, BOYS
--GRAB 'EM!

UP WITH THE DUKES,
MAMMA'S BOY!

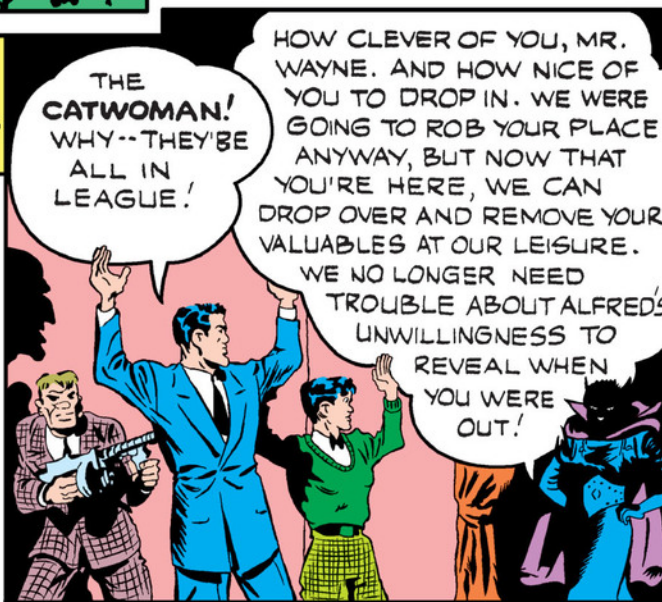
HUH! WHAT'S
THE MEANING
OF THIS!

SUDDENLY--A GRIM
SURPRISE AS A
SMILING HOST BECOMES
A SINISTER HOOD!

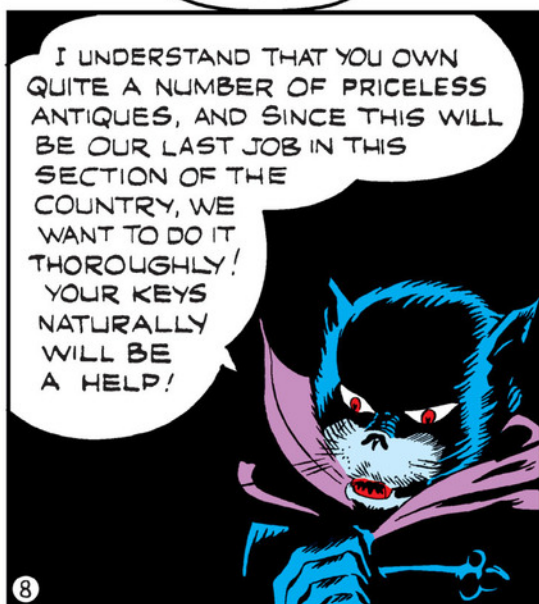


THE
CATWOMAN!
WHY--THEY'RE
ALL IN
LEAGUE!

HOW CLEVER OF YOU, MR.
WAYNE. AND HOW NICE OF
YOU TO DROP IN. WE WERE
GOING TO ROB YOUR PLACE
ANYWAY, BUT NOW THAT
YOU'RE HERE, WE CAN
DROP OVER AND REMOVE YOUR
VALUABLES AT OUR LEISURE.
WE NO LONGER NEED
TROUBLE ABOUT ALFRED'S
UNWILLINGNESS TO
REVEAL WHEN
YOU WERE
OUT!

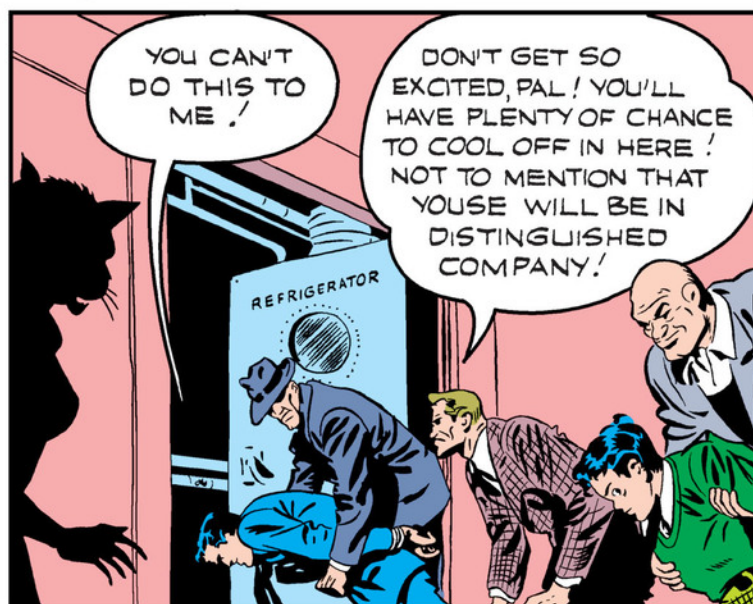


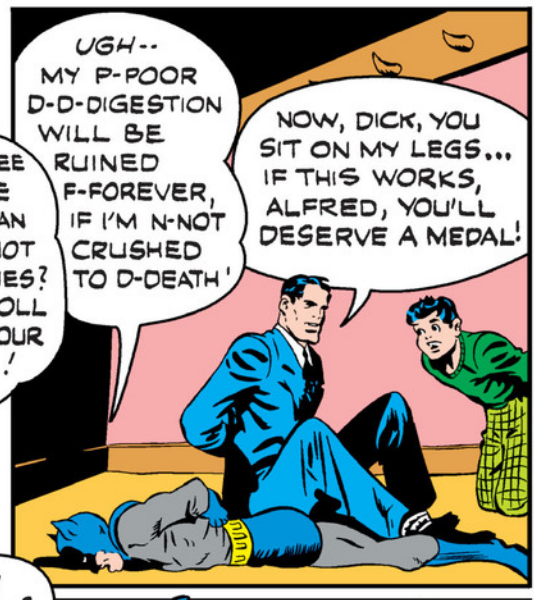
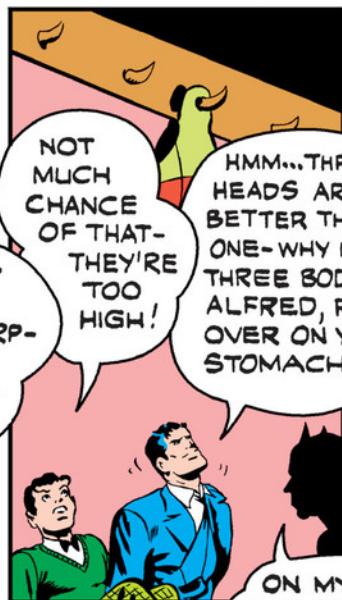
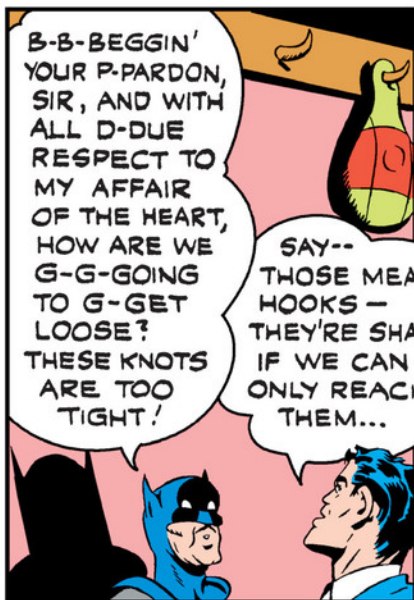
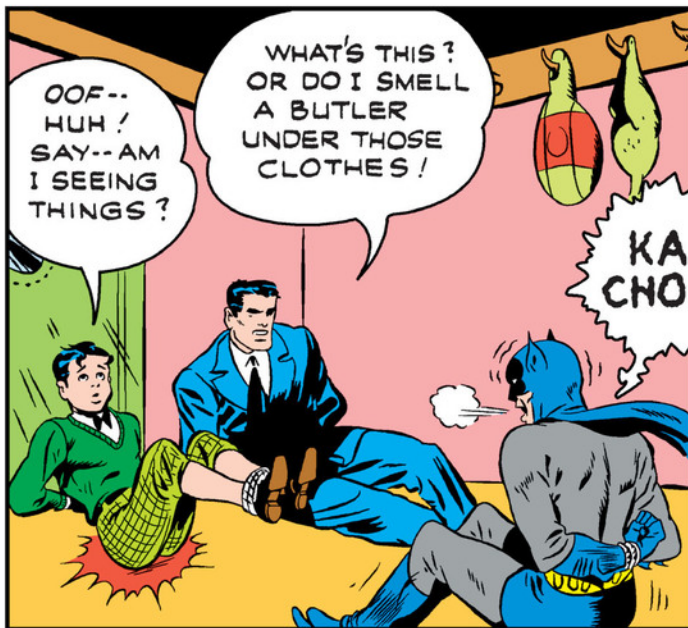
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU OWN
QUITE A NUMBER OF PRICELESS
ANTIQUES, AND SINCE THIS WILL
BE OUR LAST JOB IN THIS
SECTION OF THE
COUNTRY, WE
WANT TO DO IT
THOROUGHLY!
YOUR KEYS
NATURALLY
WILL BE
A HELP!



YOU CAN'T
DO THIS TO
ME!

DON'T GET SO
EXCITED, PAL! YOU'LL
HAVE PLENTY OF CHANCE
TO COOL OFF IN HERE!
NOT TO MENTION THAT
YOU'LL BE IN
DISTINGUISHED
COMPANY!







HERE THEY GO -- WHOOPS!

OOF!



SECONDS LATER, FREED OF THEIR BONDS, THREE STRONG BODIES HURTLE AGAINST THE REFRIGERATOR DOOR!

ALL TOGETHER NOW --!



OUTER CLOTHING REMOVED, THE REAL **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** SPEED ON WINGED FEET TOWARD THE WAYNE MANSION --

I'M AFRAID THERE'S SOMETHING OF THE SNAIL ABOUT ALFRED. HOPE WE GET THERE IN TIME!

IF THEY COUNT ON MOVING OUT ALL OUR ANTIQUES, THEY'LL STILL BE BUSY!

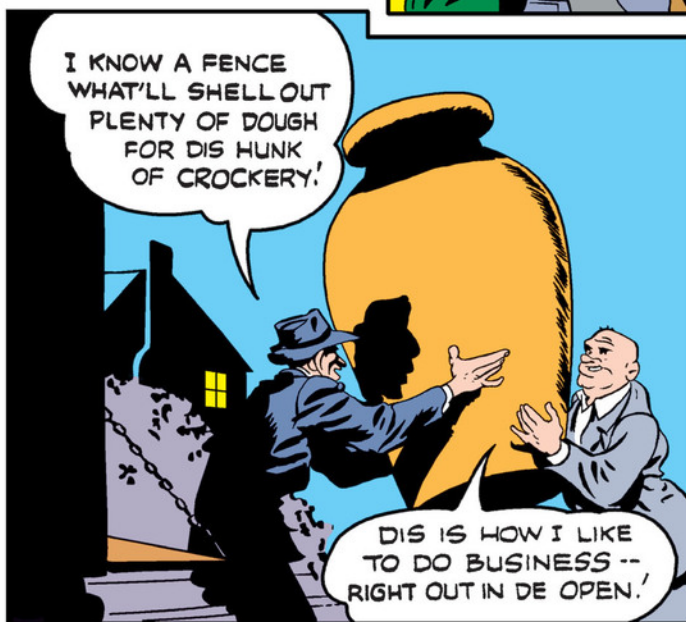


PUFF-PUFF... DEAR ME, I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH THEM... MUST SIT DOWN AND CATCH MY BREATH...



HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT FOR NERVE? IF ANYBODY ASKS QUESTIONS, THEY JUST SHOW MY KEYS AND IT LOOKS LEGITIMATE!

WELL, HERE'S WHERE WE PROVE IT ISN'T!



I KNOW A FENCE WHAT'LL SHELL OUT PLENTY OF DOUGH FOR DIS HUNK OF CROCKERY!

DIS IS HOW I LIKE TO DO BUSINESS -- RIGHT OUT IN DE OPEN!

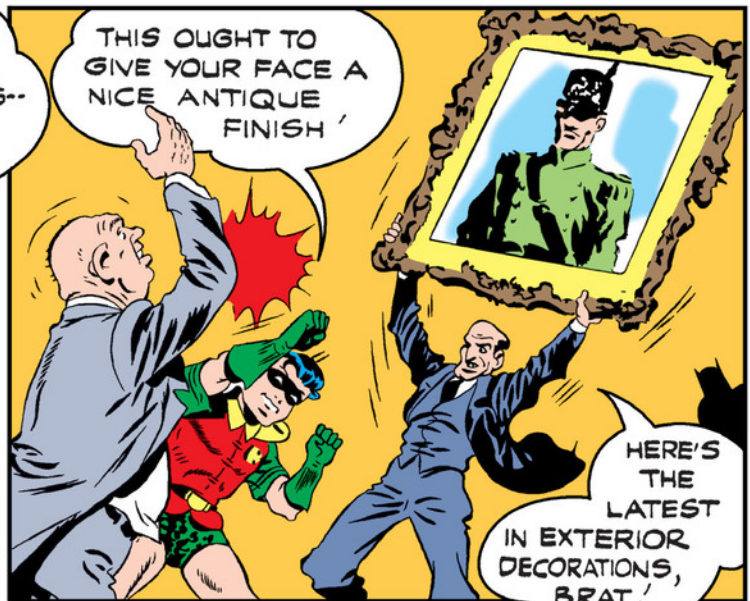


HEY-- I'M SEEIN' T'INGS!

WHEN I GET THROUGH WITH YOU, YOU'LL BE SEEING BARS!

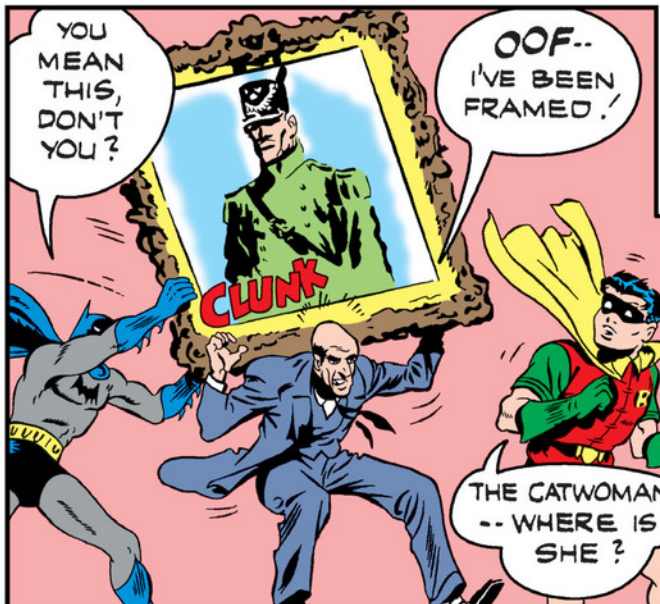


RIGHT WHERE YOU BELONG-- IN THE JUG!



THIS OUGHT TO GIVE YOUR FACE A NICE ANTIQUE FINISH!

HERE'S THE LATEST IN EXTERIOR DECORATIONS, BRAT!



YOU MEAN THIS, DON'T YOU?

OOF-- I'VE BEEN FRAMED!

CLUNK

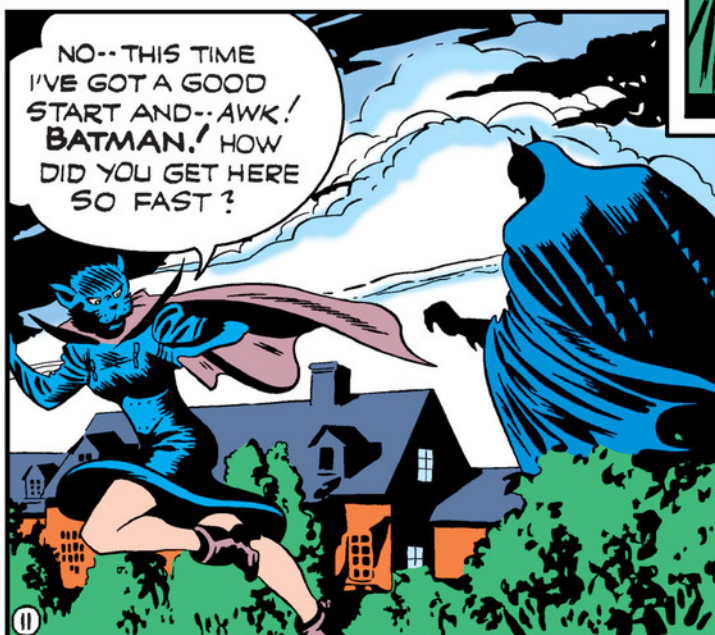
THE CATWOMAN -- WHERE IS SHE?

AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT, WATCHFUL EYES WIDEN IN WONDER AT AN UPSTAIRS WINDOW...

FEAR LENDS WINGS TO FELINE FEET AS THE CATWOMAN FLEES THROUGH THE BACK DOOR...

OH-OH! ROBIN MUST HAVE FREED THE BATMAN! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HE'D SHOW UP! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

-- AND TO THINK THAT I HAD THE BATMAN SAFELY LOCKED AWAY! IT NEVER FAILS TO END LIKE THIS! BUT HE WON'T GET ME THIS TIME!

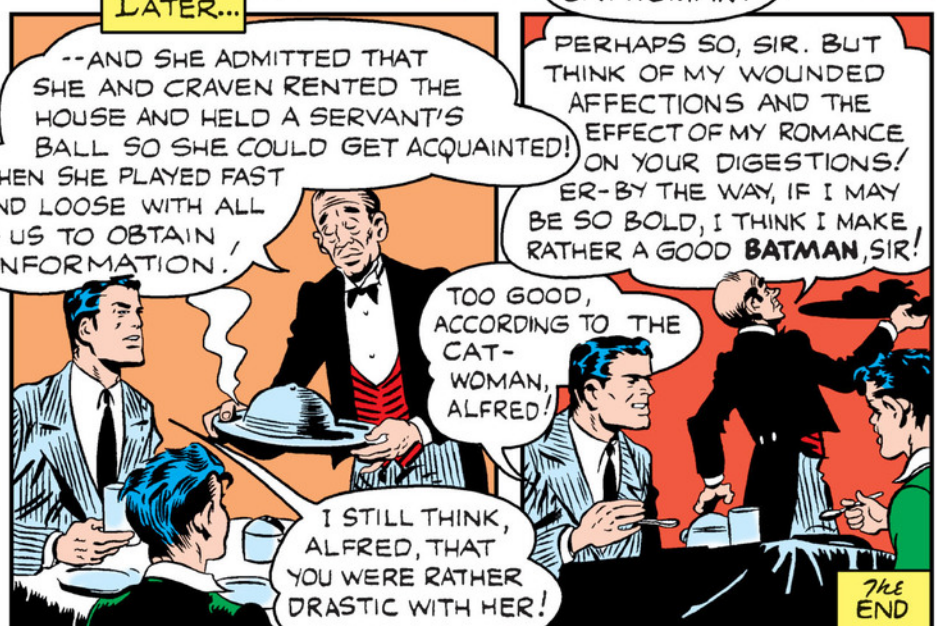
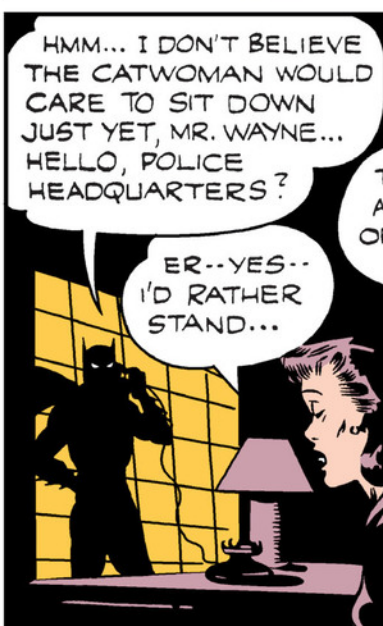
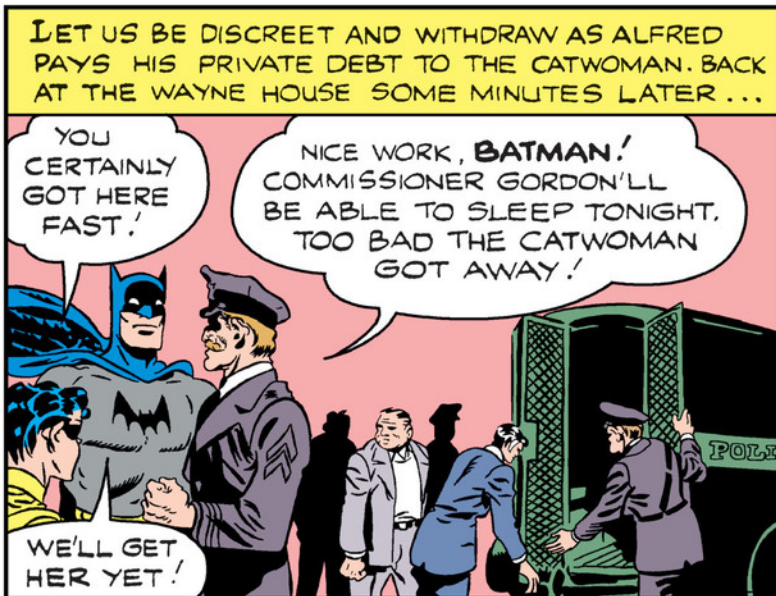


NO-- THIS TIME I'VE GOT A GOOD START AND-- AWK! BATMAN! HOW DID YOU GET HERE SO FAST?

HOW DID THE BATMAN MANAGE IT? OR PERHAPS-- YES, IT IS! IT'S ALFRED!

WELL, WHAT AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO PAY OFF A LITTLE DEBT FOR MY GOOD FRIEND ALFRED. A LITTLE SPANKING WILL DO THE TRICK. AND, BELIEVE ME, IT WILL HURT YOU MORE THAN IT WILL ME!





BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

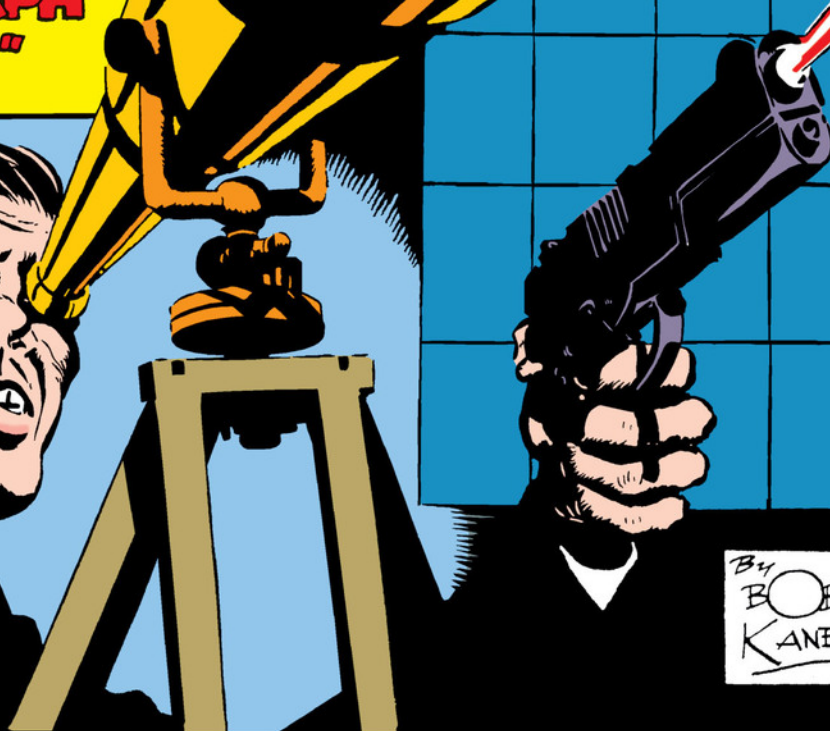
"HELLO, EASTERN TELEGRAPH?
I WANT TO SEND A TELEGRAM!
READY? ... HERE IT IS ...

DEAR READER:

FOLLOWING STORY OF BATMAN
AND ROBIN IS A SLAM-BANG YARN
OF A CLEVER CRIMINAL WITH AN
UNUSUAL SCHEME, YOU WILL BE
SURPRISED BY THE STORY'S
ANGLES AND THRILLED BY ITS
WILD AND EXCITING CLIMAX.

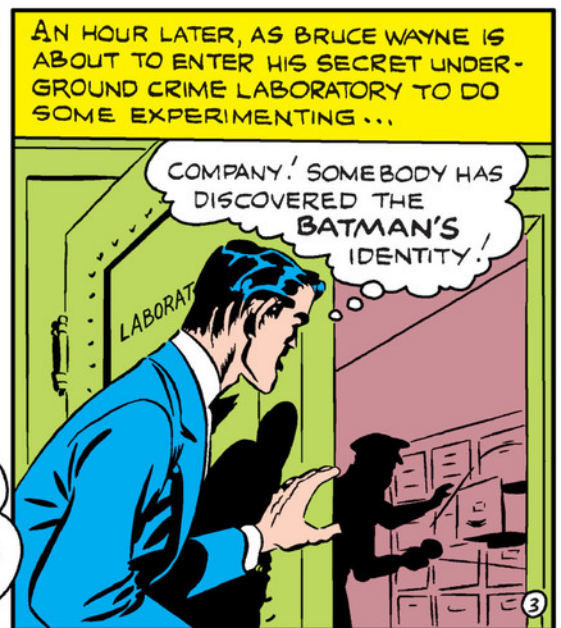
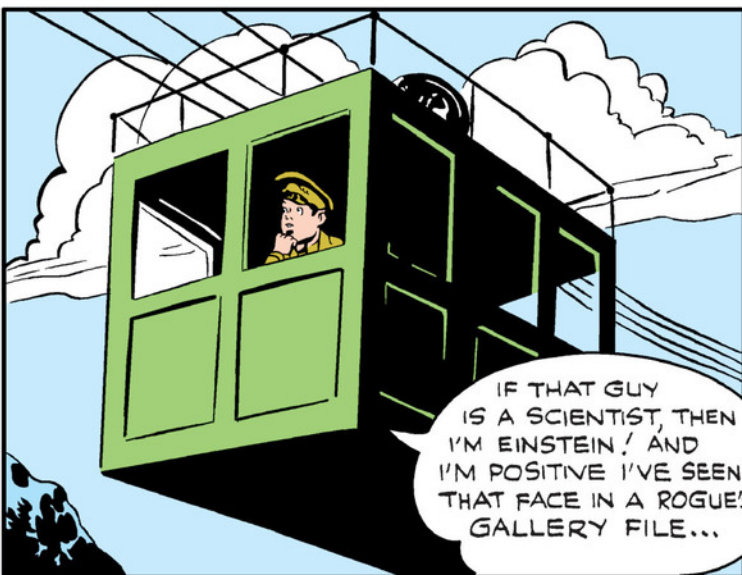
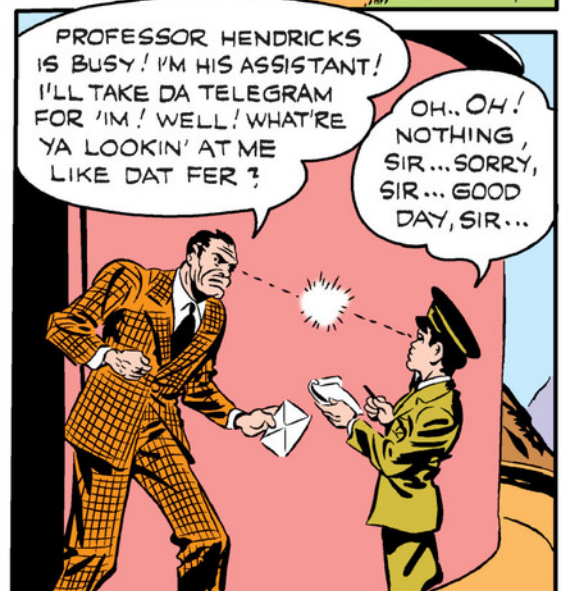
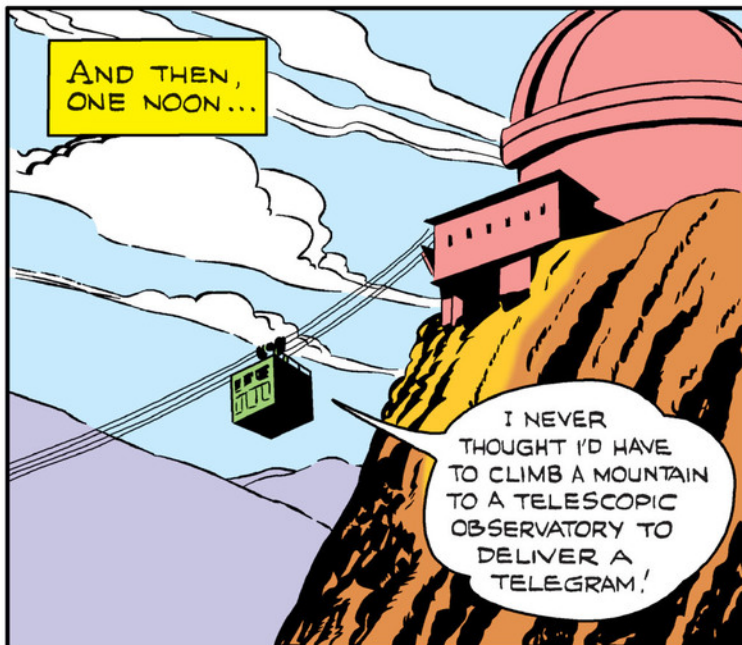
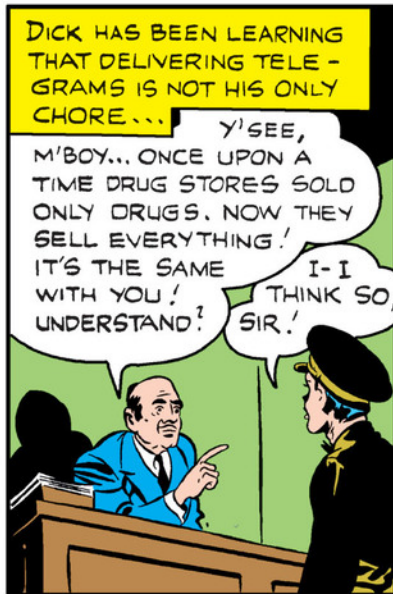
YES, THAT'S THE MESSAGE.
SIGN IT, *THE EDITOR*, AND
RUSH IT OUT AT ONCE. I THINK
YOU'LL MAKE BETTER TIME
IF YOU SEND IT WITH ...

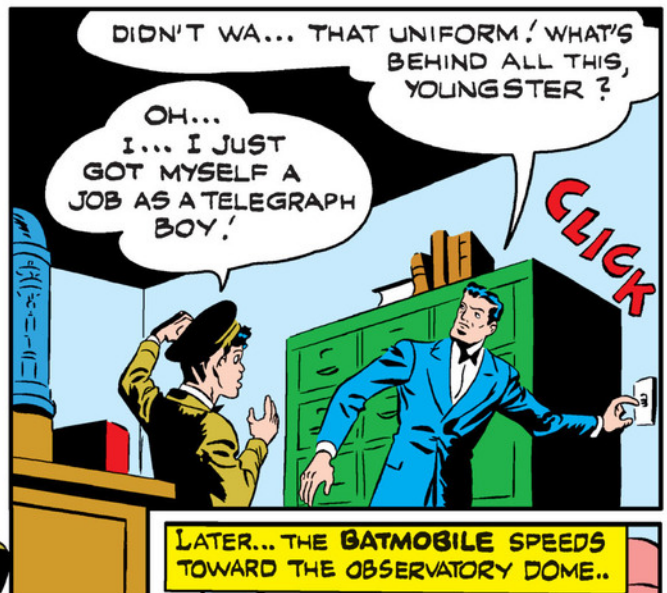
**"DICK GRAYSON,
TELEGRAPH
BOY!"**



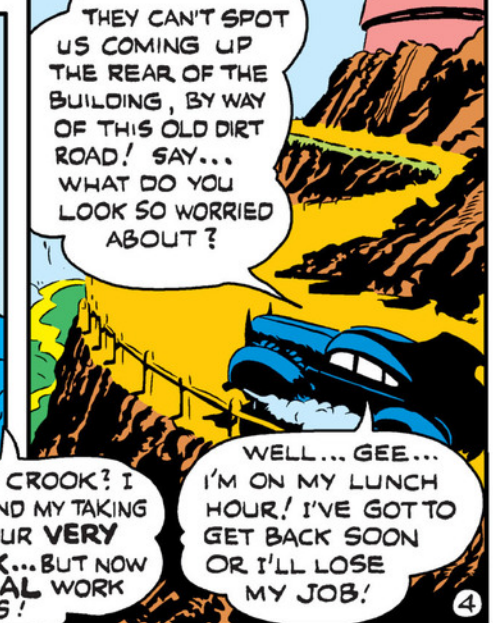
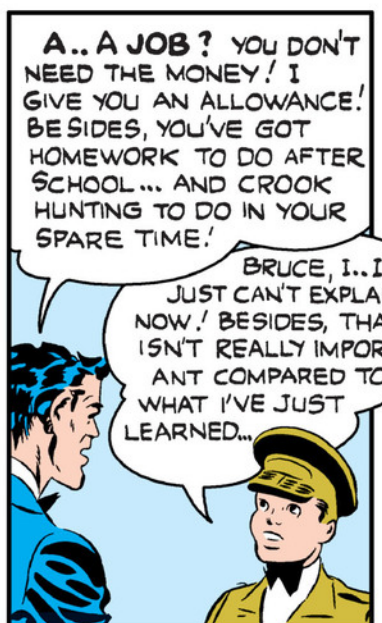
By
**BOB
KANE**

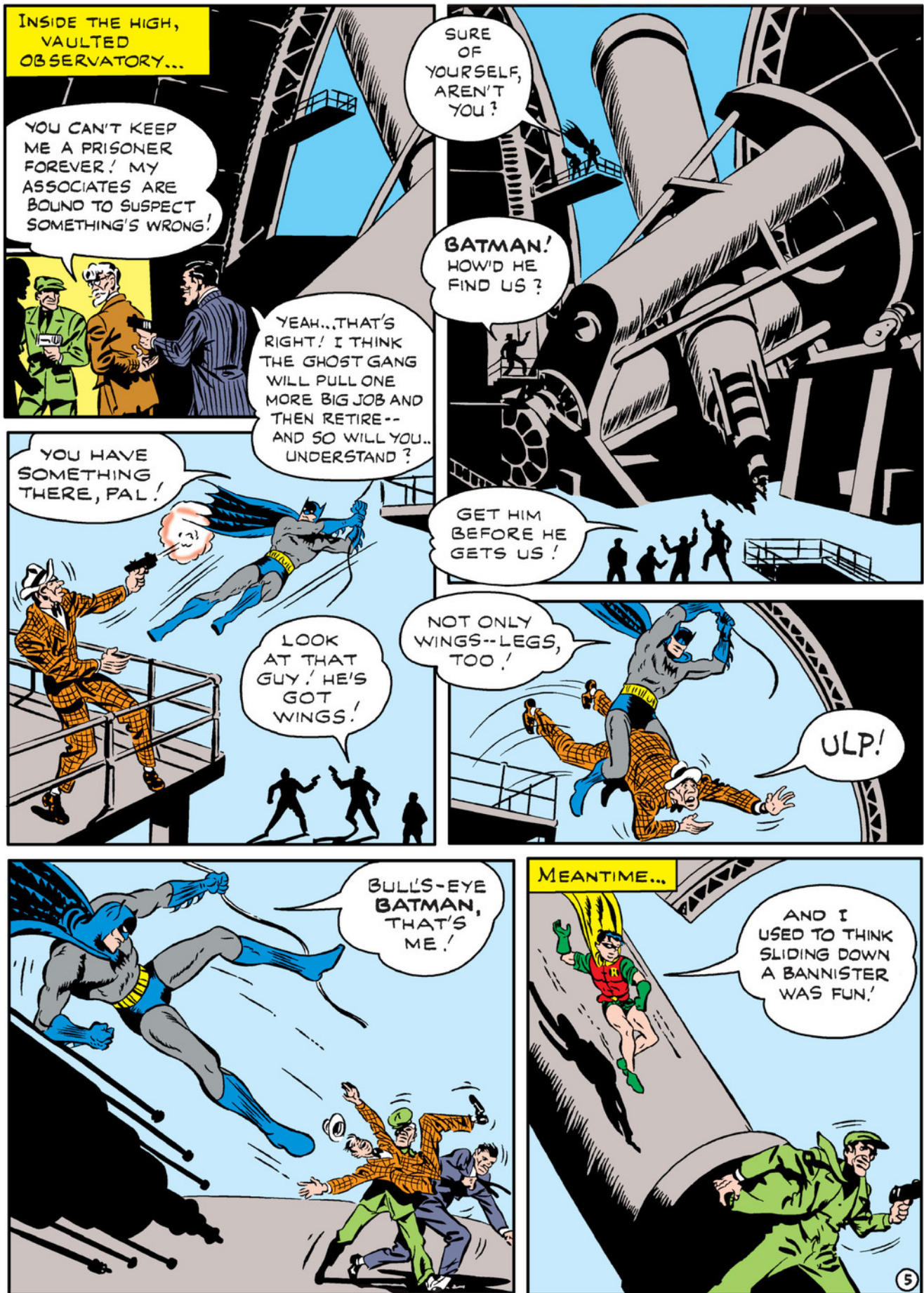






LATER... THE BATMOBILE SPEEDS TOWARD THE OBSERVATORY DOME..







WHEEE...
RIGHT
ON THE
DOME!

IN A SURPRISE MOVE, OPTIK RE-SORTS TO AN OLD, COWARDLY BUT ALWAYS EFFECTIVE RUSE...

QUIT HOPPIN' AROUND,
YOU MONKEYS, OR THE
PROFESSOR GETS
HIS -- NOW!

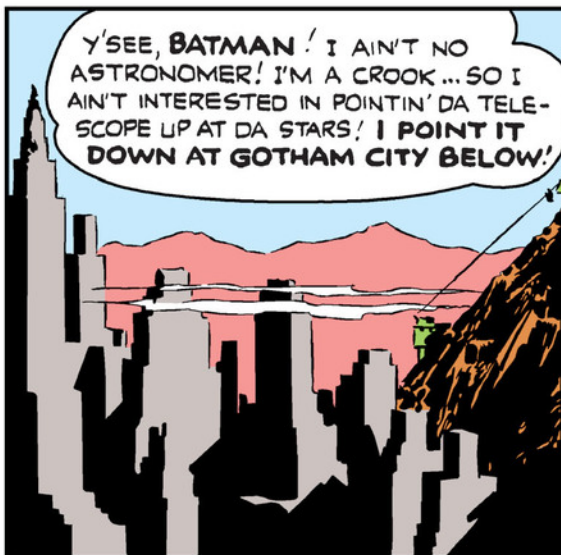
DON'T MIND ME,
BATMAN!
JUST KEEP
PUNCHING.

SORRY, PROFESSOR
HENDRICKS, BUT I LIKE
YOU ALIVE... AND WHERE
THERE'S LIFE, THERE'S
HOPE! OKAY, OPTIK, WE'LL
QUIT.

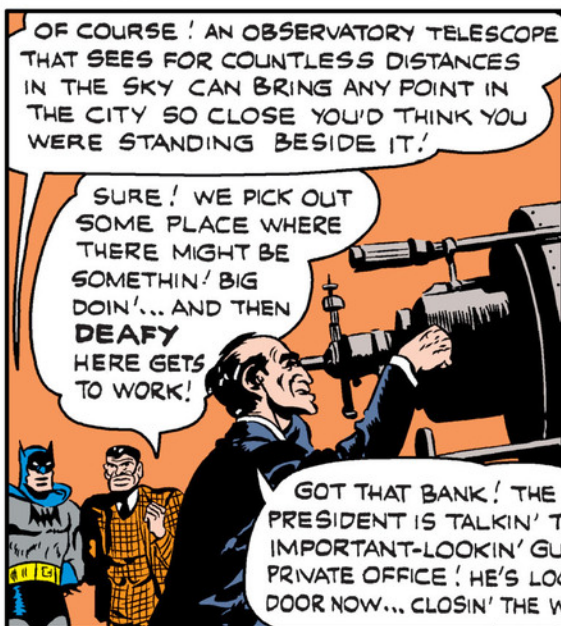
LATER...

OKAY, MR. RAT.
BEFORE YOU FIRE
AT THE WHITES OF
OUR EYES I'D LIKE
TO KNOW WHAT THIS
OBSERVATORY HAS
TO DO WITH YOUR
"GHOST GANG" ACT.

SURE! WHY
NOT? YOU
AIN'T GOIN'
NOWHERE!
ME'N THE
BOYS WILL
DEMON-
STRATE!



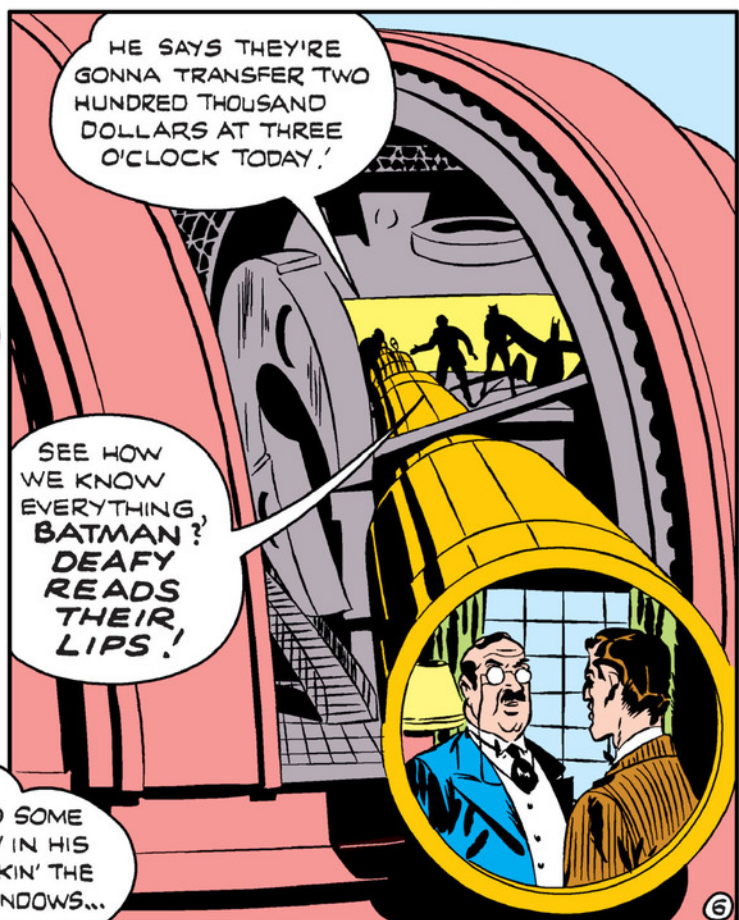
Y'SEE, **BATMAN!** I AIN'T NO
ASTRONOMER! I'M A CROOK... SO I
AIN'T INTERESTED IN POINTIN' DA TELE-
SCOPE UP AT DA STARS! I POINT IT
DOWN AT GOTHAM CITY BELOW!



OF COURSE! AN OBSERVATORY TELESCOPE
THAT SEES FOR COUNTLESS DISTANCES
IN THE SKY CAN BRING ANY POINT IN
THE CITY SO CLOSE YOU'D THINK YOU
WERE STANDING BESIDE IT!

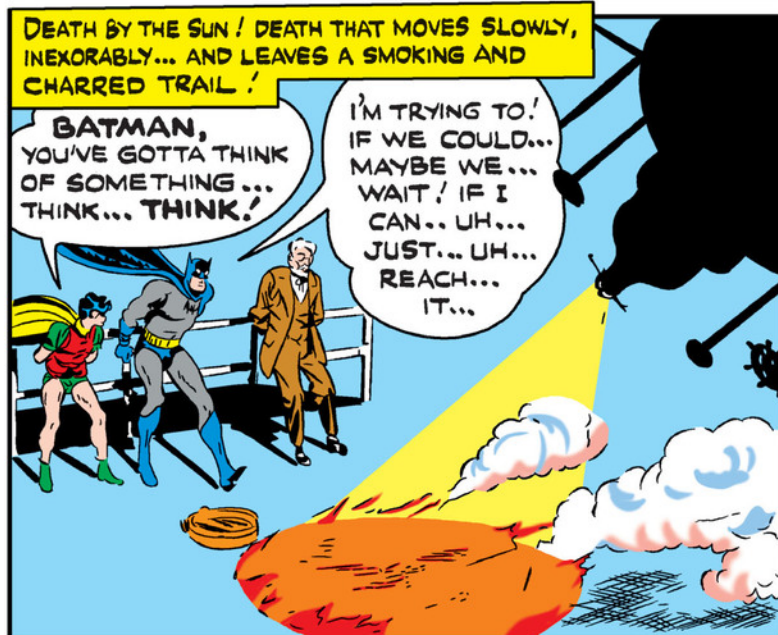
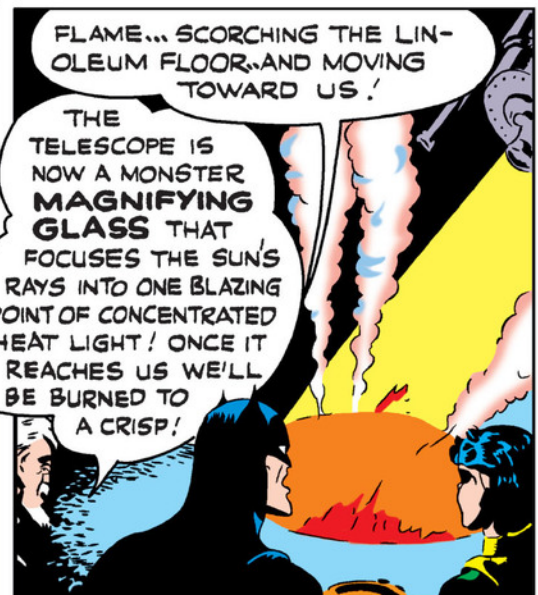
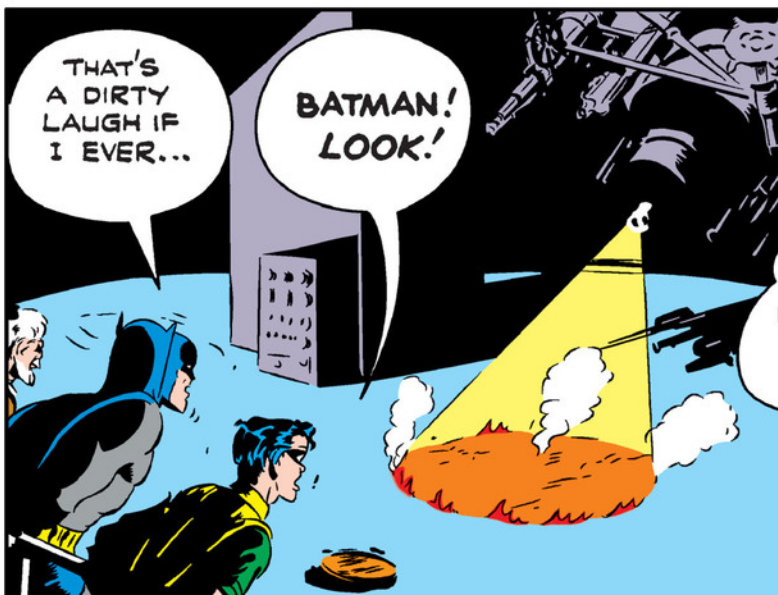
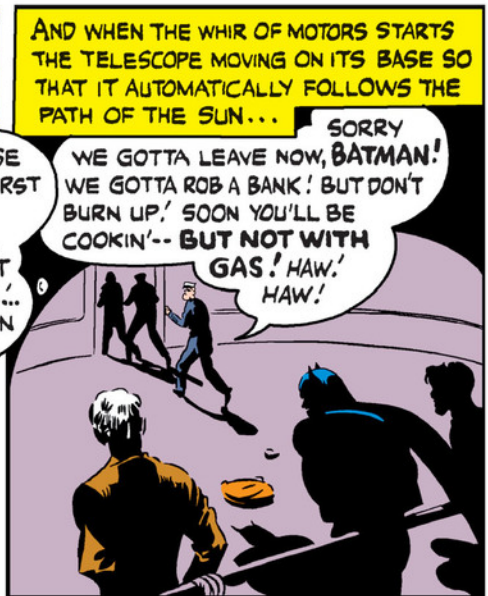
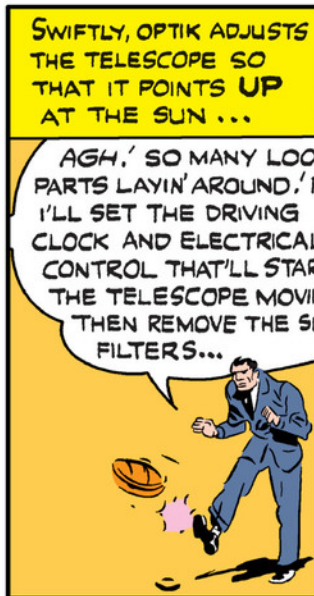
SURE! WE PICK OUT
SOME PLACE WHERE
THERE MIGHT BE
SOMETHIN' BIG
DOIN'... AND THEN
DEAFY
HERE GETS
TO WORK!

GOT THAT BANK! THE
PRESIDENT IS TALKIN' TO SOME
IMPORTANT-LOOKIN' GUY IN HIS
PRIVATE OFFICE! HE'S LOCKIN' THE
DOOR NOW... CLOSIN' THE WINDOWS...



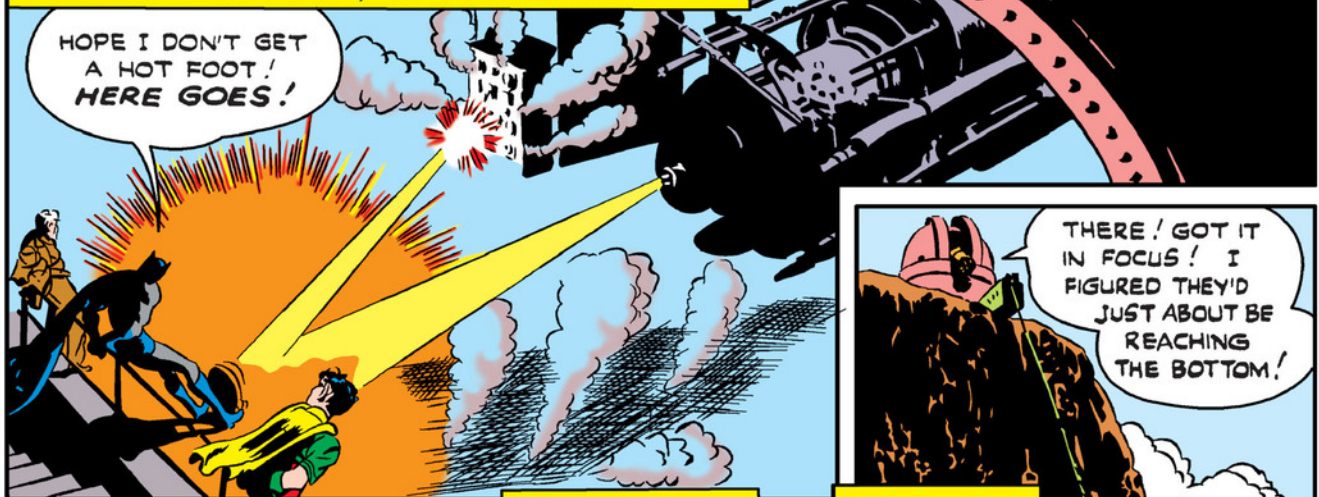
HE SAYS THEY'RE
GONNA TRANSFER TWO
HUNDRED THOUSAND
DOLLARS AT THREE
O'CLOCK TODAY!

SEE HOW
WE KNOW
EVERYTHING,
BATMAN?
DEAFY
READS
THEIR
LIPS!



NEARER...EVER NEARER CREEPS THE TERRIBLE CIRCLE OF BLAZE--
THEN LIKE A FIERY COMET, **IT STRIKES...**

HOPE I DON'T GET
A HOT FOOT!
HERE GOES!



THERE! GOT IT
IN FOCUS! I
FIGURED THEY'D
JUST ABOUT BE
REACHING
THE BOTTOM!

SWIFTLY,
BATMAN
REPAIRS THE
FUSED WIRES
AND TILTS THE
TELESCOPE
DOWN...
AT THE
CABLE
CAR!

AND MIRACULOUSLY...

THE TELESCOPE'S STOPPED
MOVING! THAT GADGET! HOW..??

IT WAS A TELESCOPE **MIRROR**
ATTACHMENT, USED FOR LONG
STUDY OF THE SKY!

THE SUN'S
RAY STRUCK THAT MIRROR...
WAS DEFLECTED ONTO
THE WIRES THAT CON-
TROLLED THE TELESCOPE'S
DRIVING CLOCK! ITS CON-
CENTRATED HEAT **FUSED**

THE WIRES AND
CAUSED A SHORT
CIRCUIT! GOOD
THINKING,
BATMAN!

MINUTES LATER...

GOLLY, THOSE ROPES
WERE TIGHT! OLD STUFF
NOW! ALL WE DO IS GET
TO THAT BANK AND NAB
THOSE CROOKS IN THE
ACT!

AREN'T YOU FOR-
GETTING YOU DON'T
KNOW **WHICH**
BANK?

THAT'S RIGHT!
AND THERE ARE
HUNDREDS OF THEM IN
GOTHAM CITY!

BOYS, THE
ACORN
EXCHANGE
BANK IS DUE
FOR A
SURPRISE,
EH? HAW!
HAW!

IT'S THE ACORN
EXCHANGE BANK! WE WON'T
TAKE ANY CHANCES - PHONE
GORDON TO GET THERE
AHEAD OF THEM!

B-BUT...THE BANK?
HOW DID YOU KNOW?

PART OF OUR
SPECIAL TRAINING,
PROFESSOR!
BATMAN AND I
CAN READ LIPS
ALSO! OPTIK'S
OWN TRICK HAS
BOOMERANGED!

**BUT THE
BEST LAID
PLANS OF
MICE AND
MEN...**

RATS? YOU MEAN
EELS! THEY SLIPPED
THROUGH OUR NET! WE
ONLY MANAGED TO
BAG ONE!

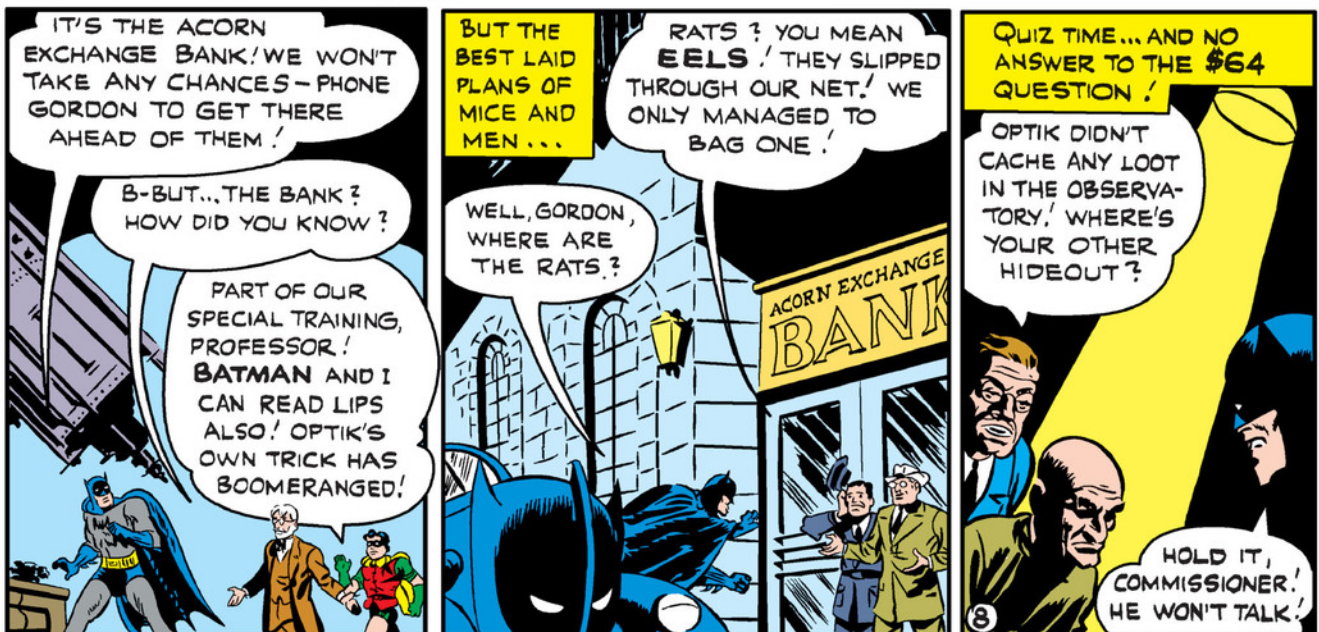
WELL, GORDON,
WHERE ARE
THE RATS?

ACORN EXCHANGE
BANK

**QUIZ TIME... AND NO
ANSWER TO THE \$64
QUESTION!**

OPTIK DIDN'T
CACHE ANY LOOT
IN THE OBSERVA-
TORY! WHERE'S
YOUR OTHER
HIDEOUT?

HOLD IT,
COMMISSIONER!
HE WON'T TALK!



THEN, TO HOODLUM EGGHEAD COMES BLACKNESS! A BLIND-FOLD! A BUZZ OF SECRET CONVERSATION... TWO LOUD VOICES...

THEN, COMMISSIONER GORDON, I MAY DO AS I WISH WITH THE PRISONER?

YES, PROFESSOR HENDRICKS! HE'S ALL YOURS! JUST GET HIM OUT OF MY SIGHT!

HANDS PUSH EGGHEAD INTO A CAR... AND THERE FOLLOWS A LONG MYSTERIOUS RIDE...

HEY, PROFESSOR! WHERE YA TAKIN' ME? WHAT'S DA IDEA?

YOU'LL FIND OUT SOON ENOUGH!

FINALLY... THE CAR STOPS... EGGHEAD IS PROPELLED INSIDE... STRAPPED INTO A CHAIR... AND THEN THE BLIND-FOLD IS REMOVED!

HUH? WE MUST RODE FER HOURS! IT'S NIGHT! SAY, WHERE ARE WE? WHAT IS DIS?

WE ARE ATOP A HIGH MOUNTAIN... WE ARE IN MY ROCKET SHIP!

SUDDENLY THE WHOLE SKY SEEMS TO DROP SICKENINGLY... THE MOON LURCHES...

YOW! WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?

DON'T BE ALARMED! EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT IN JUST A MOMENT! MY SPACE SHIP HAS JUST LEFT EARTH!

...JUST LEFT EARTH! YOU'RE CRAZY! IT AIN'T TRUE!

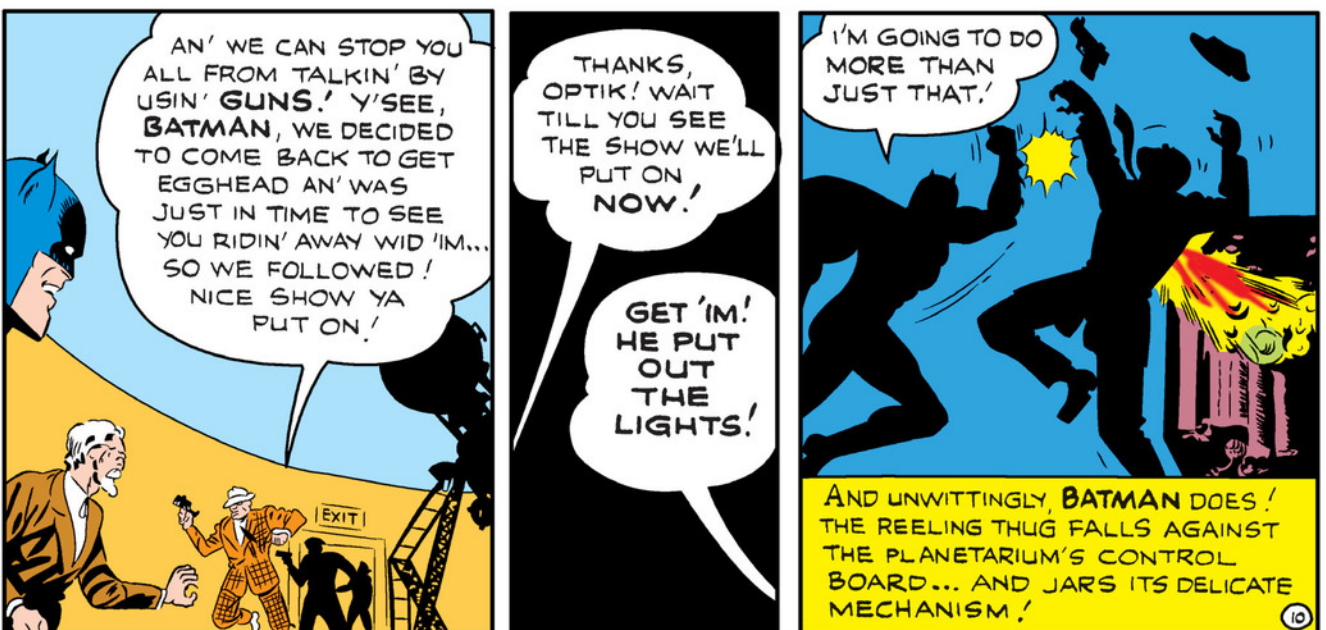
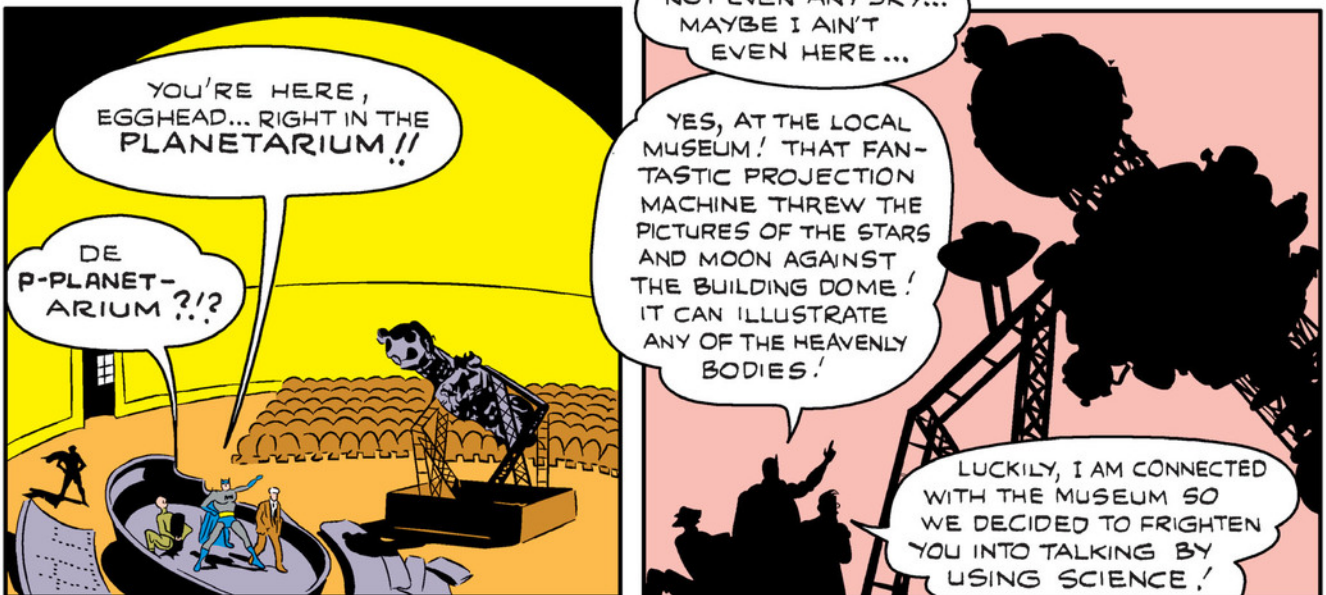
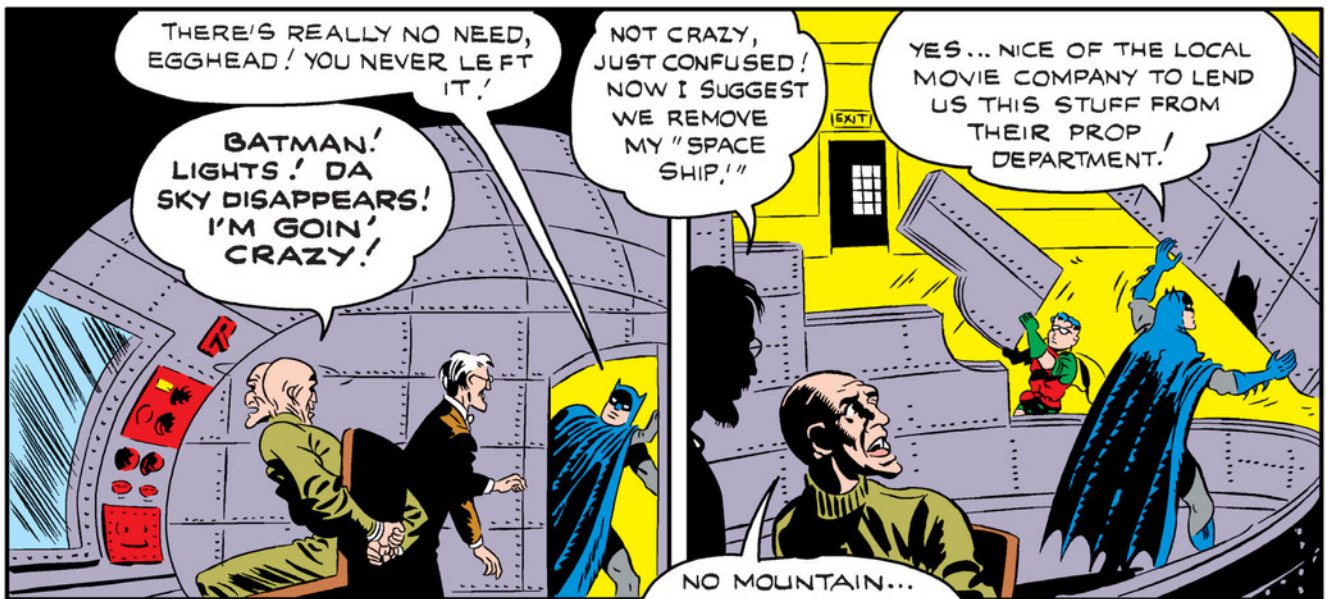
OH, IT'S TRUE! AT THIS RATE OF SPEED WE SHOULD REACH THE MOON WITHIN AN HOUR! SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW MUCH LARGER THE MOON IS NOW!

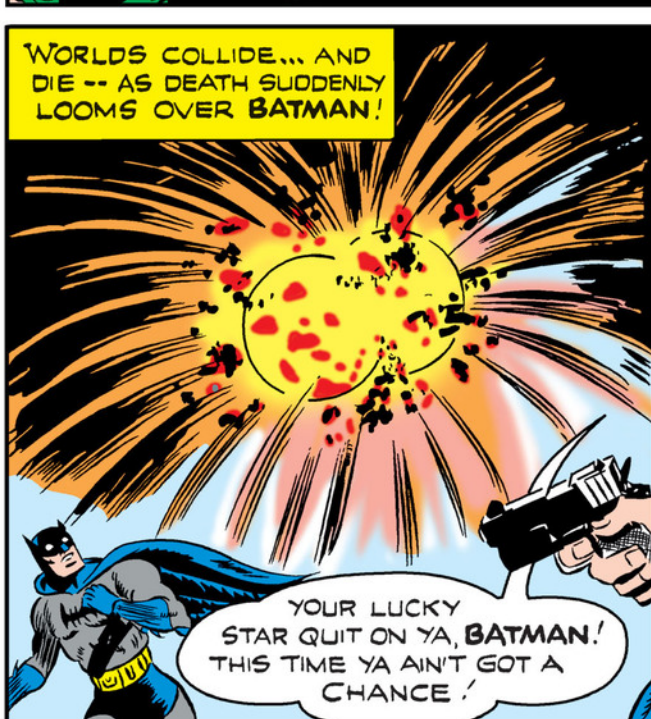
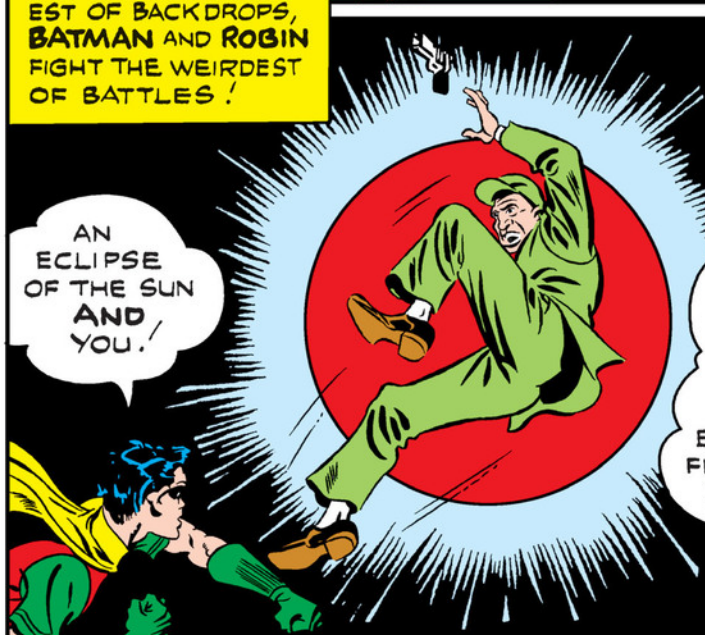
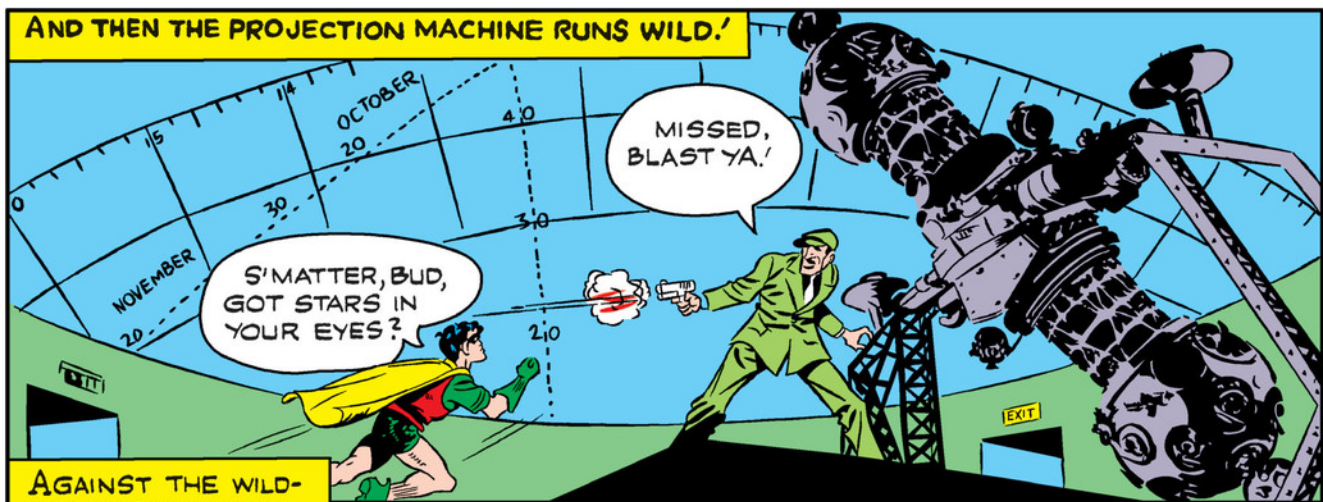
WE SHALL BE THE FIRST EARTHMEN TO LAND ON THE MOON! SEPARATED FROM MAN... ALL ALONE ON AN ALIEN, DEAD WORLD!

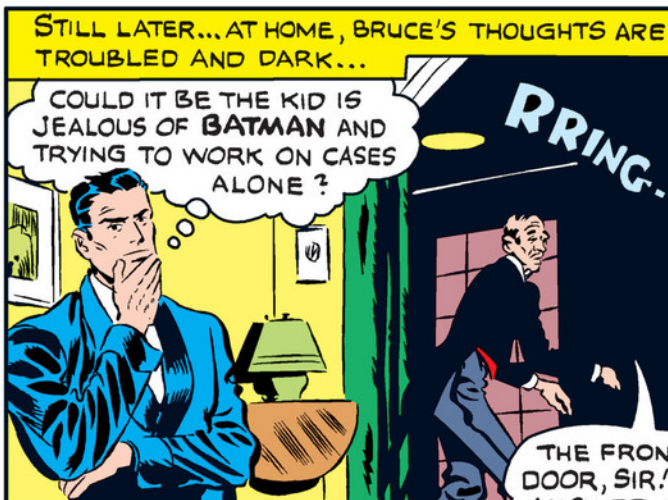
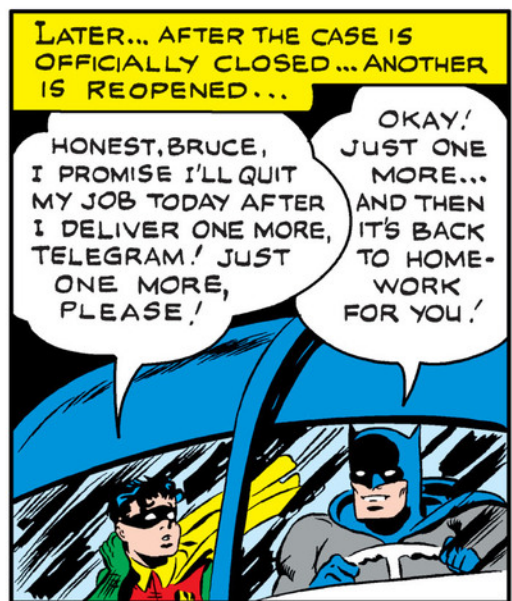
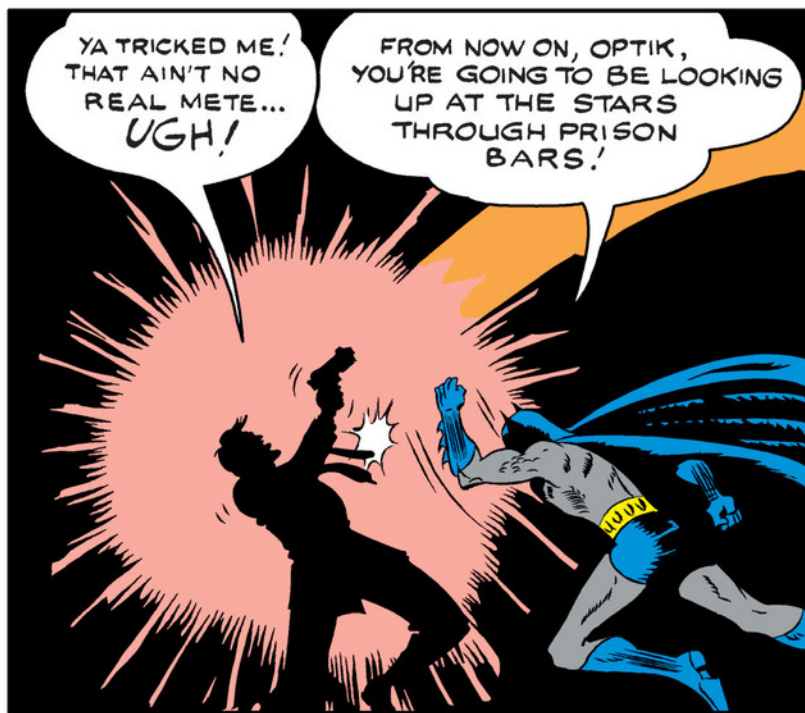
I WANNA GO HOME! WHY DID YA HAVE TO TAKE ME ALONG?

TO PUNISH YOU! I'VE NOTHING TO LIVE FOR BACK ON EARTH! YOUR HENCHMEN HAVE DISGRACED ME BY USING MY OBSERVATORY FOR CRIMINAL PURPOSES! PERHAPS IF I COULD RECOVER THE LOOT... LOCATE OPTIK'S HIDEOUT...??

IT'S THE WAREHOUSE ON PERRY STREET! NOW, LET'S GET BACK TO EARTH!





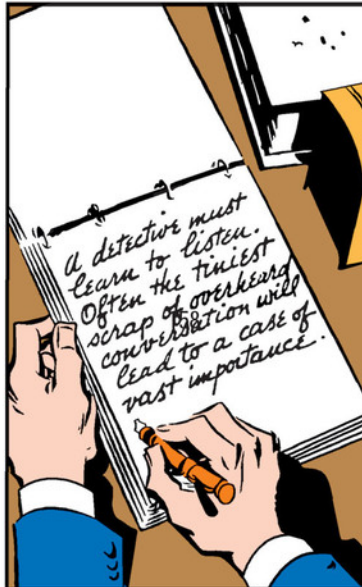
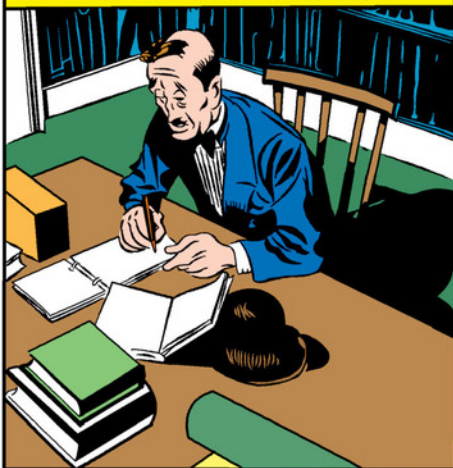


The Adventures of ALFRED

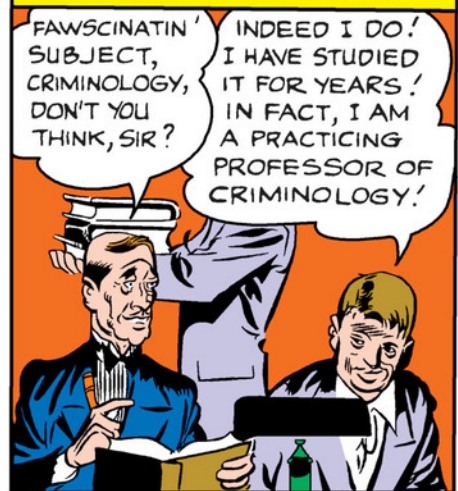
HERE COMES ALFRED, THE SLEUTHING BUTLER, IN A STRICTLY SOLO DETECTIVE ROLE! AWAY FROM HIS POST IN THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME, HE WRITES A MINOR EPIC IN THE ANNALS OF CRIMINOLOGY AS HE FOLLOWS, BY THE TRIAL AND ERROR METHOD (MOSTLY ERROR!), A REMARKABLE--
"CONVERSATIONAL CLUE!"



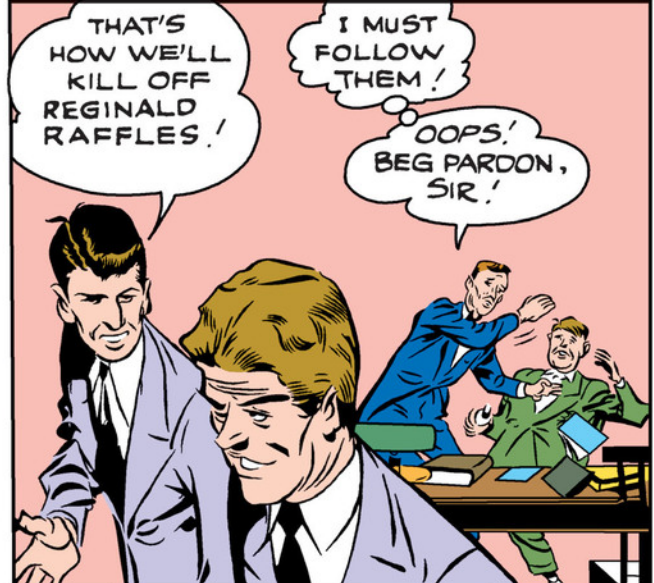
A SCHOLARLY MAN IS ALFRED, HERE SEEN MAKING COPIOUS NOTES IN THE CRIMINOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY!

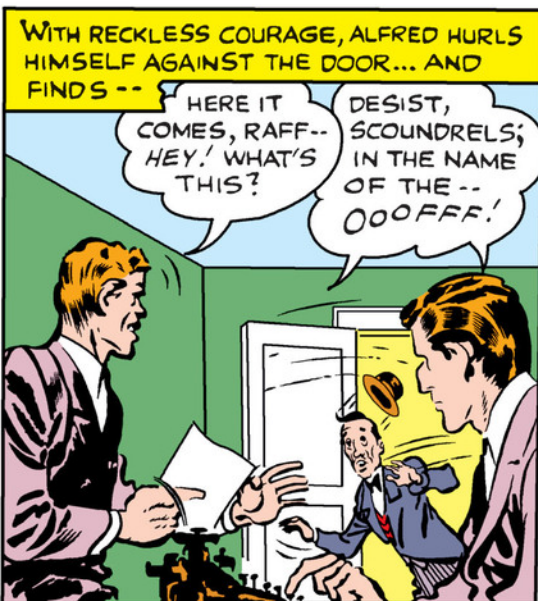
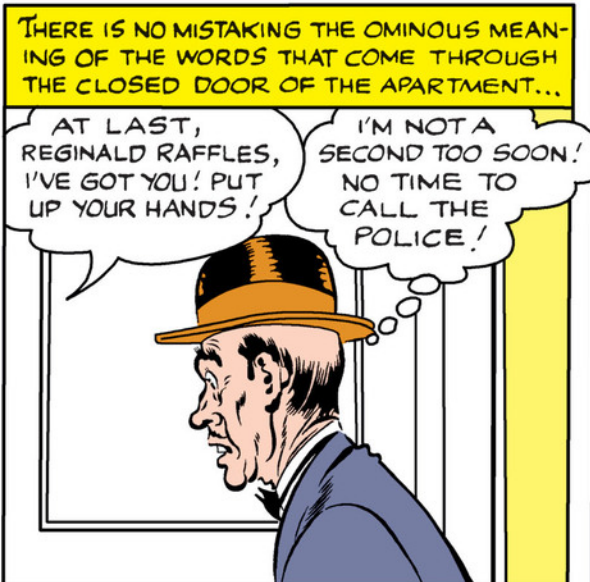
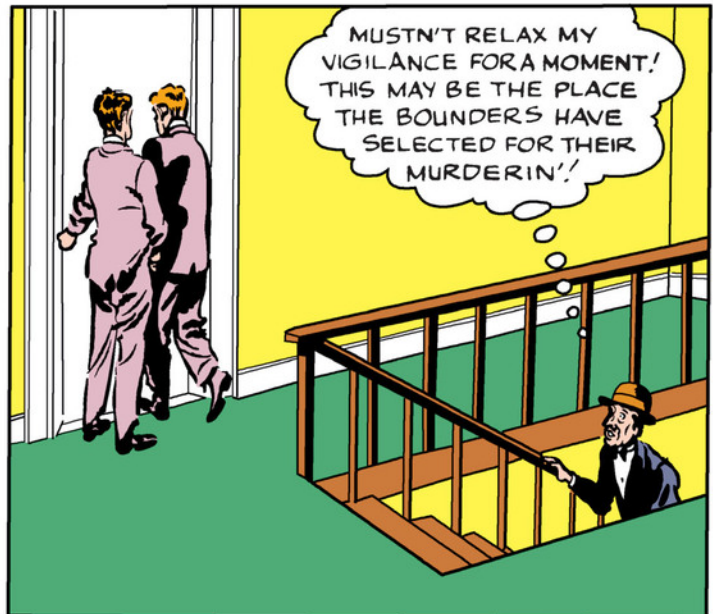
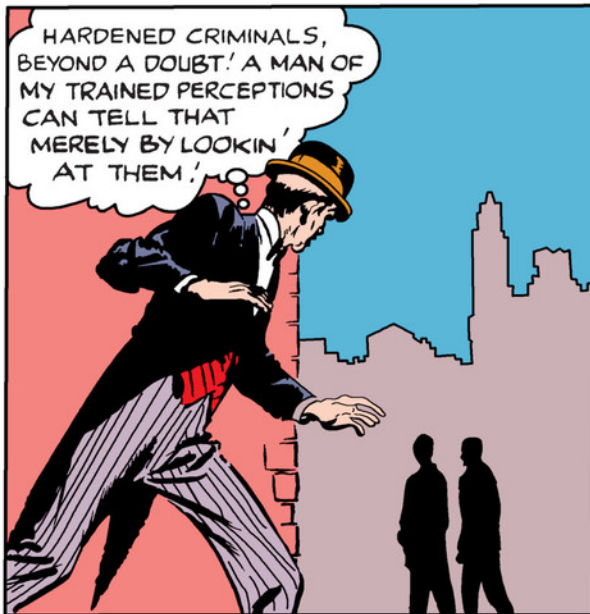


AND A FRIENDLY MAN IS ALFRED, ALWAYS READY TO CONVERSE WITH A RESPECTABLE-LOOKING STRANGER!



SUDDENLY ALFRED'S ALERT EARS CATCH A TINY SCRAP OF EVEN MORE FASCINATING CONVERSATION FROM ACROSS THE TABLE.







I SAY, THIS ISN'T MY NOTE-BOOK! IT'S FILLED WITH PRO-CODE WRITIN'!

I MUST HAVE TAKEN THE PROFESSOR'S BOOK BY MISTAKE--AND THIS ADDRESS MUST BE WHERE HE LIVES!



A RAWTHER IMPRESSIVE PLACE! I DO HOPE THE PROFESSOR WON'T BE ANNOYED WITH ME! I COULD TELL AT THE FIRST GLANCE THAT HE WAS A VERY DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN!



I AM SEEKING THE PROFESSOR! BEING A DETECTIVE, OF SORTS--

A DETECTIVE? WELL, WELL--COME RIGHT IN!

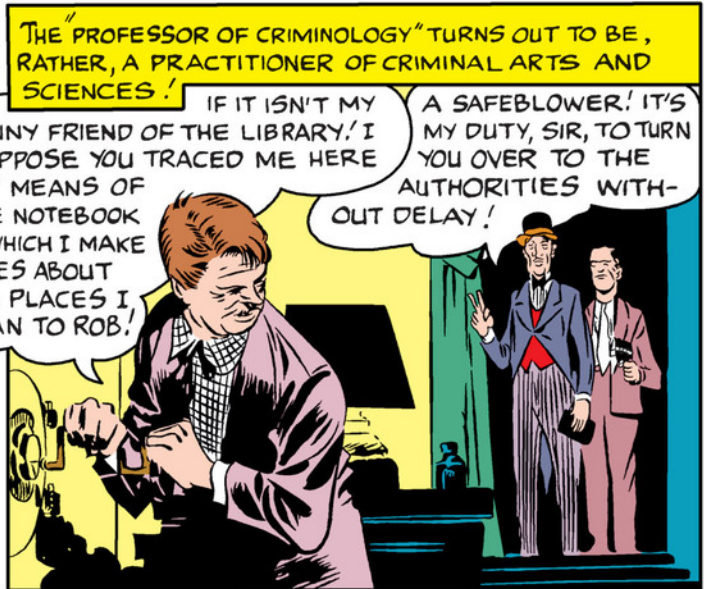


A PISTOL! SURELY, MY GOOD MAN, THERE'S NO NEED OF THAT!

SHUT UP! HEY, PROF--I JUST CAUGHT A DETECTIVE!

BRING HIM IN, BUTCH, AND WE'LL GIVE HIM TEA!

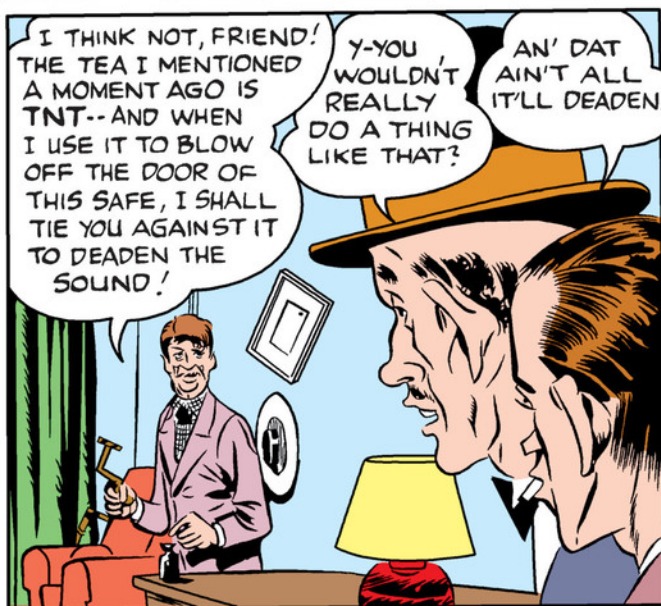
FUNNY FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY! I SUPPOSE YOU TRACED ME HERE BY MEANS OF THE NOTEBOOK IN WHICH I MAKE NOTES ABOUT THE PLACES I PLAN TO ROB!



THE "PROFESSOR OF CRIMINOLOGY" TURNS OUT TO BE, RATHER, A PRACTITIONER OF CRIMINAL ARTS AND SCIENCES!

IF IT ISN'T MY

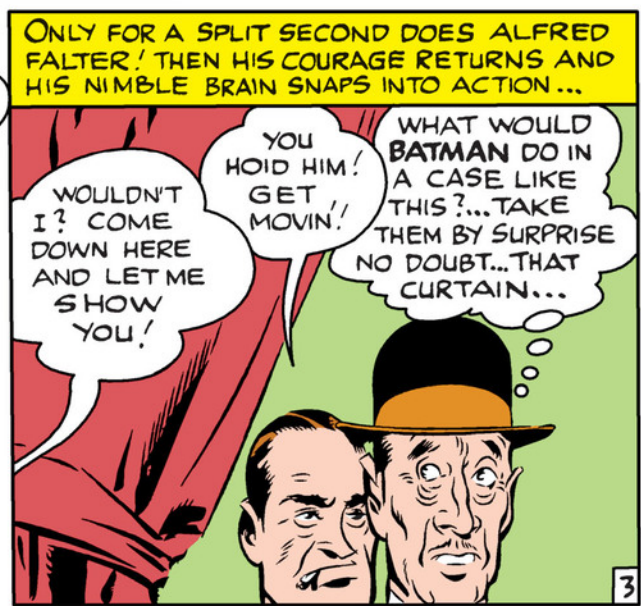
A SAFE-BLOWER! IT'S MY DUTY, SIR, TO TURN YOU OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES WITHOUT DELAY!



I THINK NOT, FRIEND! THE TEA I MENTIONED A MOMENT AGO IS TNT--AND WHEN I USE IT TO BLOW OFF THE DOOR OF THIS SAFE, I SHALL TIE YOU AGAINST IT TO DEADEN THE SOUND!

Y-YOU WOULDN'T REALLY DO A THING LIKE THAT?

AN' DAT AIN'T ALL IT'LL DEADEN!

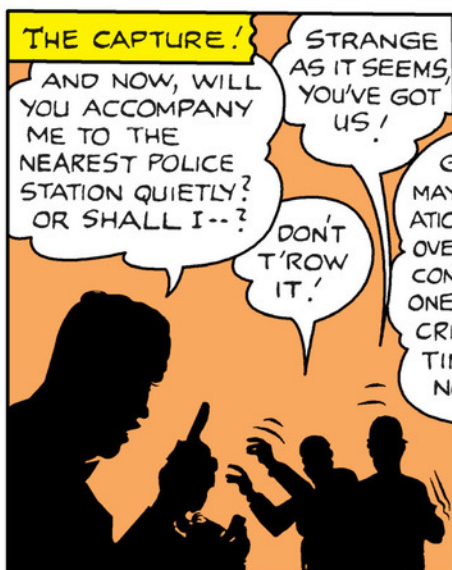
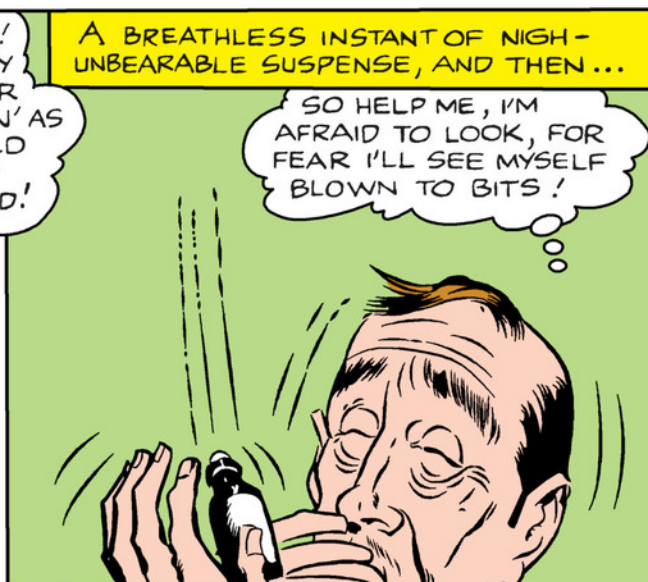
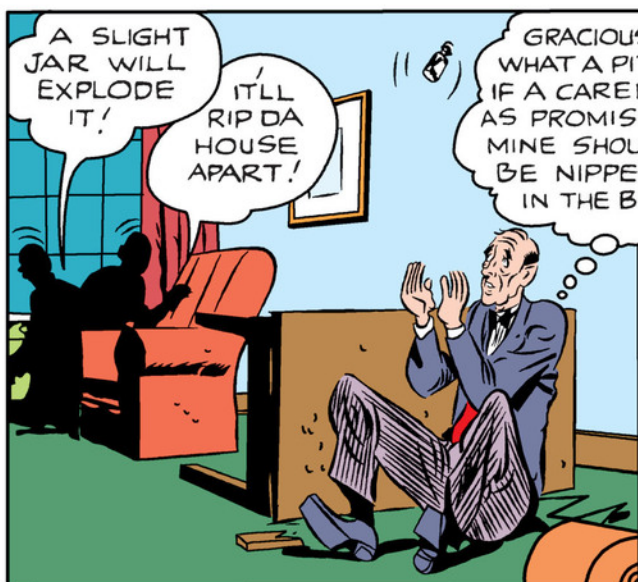
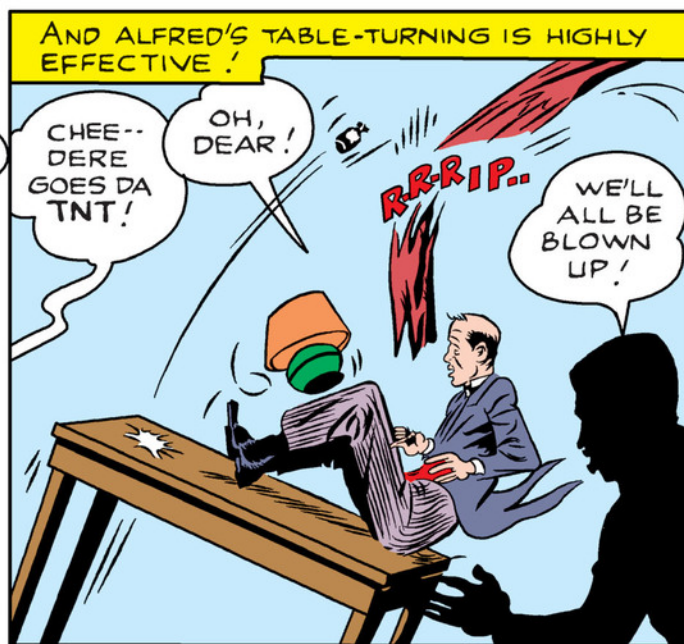
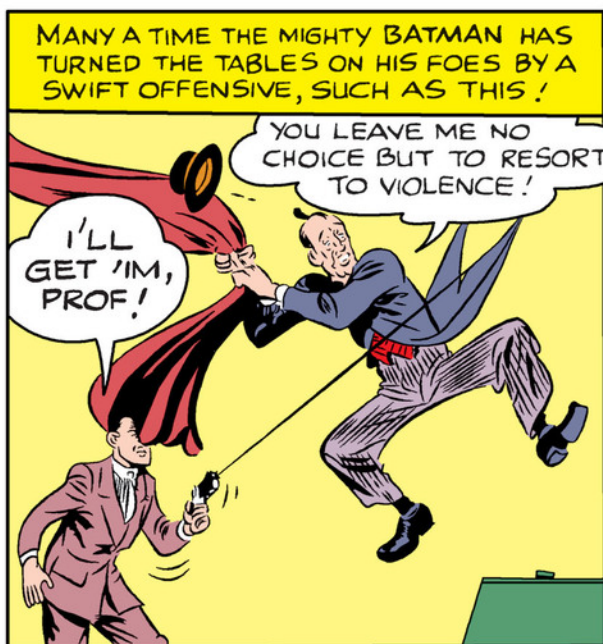


ONLY FOR A SPLIT SECOND DOES ALFRED FALTER! THEN HIS COURAGE RETURNS AND HIS NIMBLE BRAIN SNAPS INTO ACTION...

WOULDN'T I? COME DOWN HERE AND LET ME SHOW YOU!

YOU HOID HIM! GET MOVIN'!

WHAT WOULD BATMAN DO IN A CASE LIKE THIS?...TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE NO DOUBT...THAT CURTAIN...



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

"YOU CAN'T DO MONKEY BUSINESS WITH BATMAN!"-- IS THE FIRST RULE OF THE UNDERWORLD! BUT THAT RULE -- LIKE OTHERS IN THE CODE BOOK OF CRIMEDOM -- DOES NOT APPLY TO THAT DASHING KNAVE ERRANT... *THE CAVALIER*! HANDSOME, SWASHBUCKLING -- AND A DANGEROUS FOE -- HE DELIBERATELY UNDERTAKES TO OUTWIT THE BATTLING BATMAN AND ROBIN... AND THE DYNAMIC DUO FACES ONE OF ITS MOST PERILOUS TESTS WHEN...

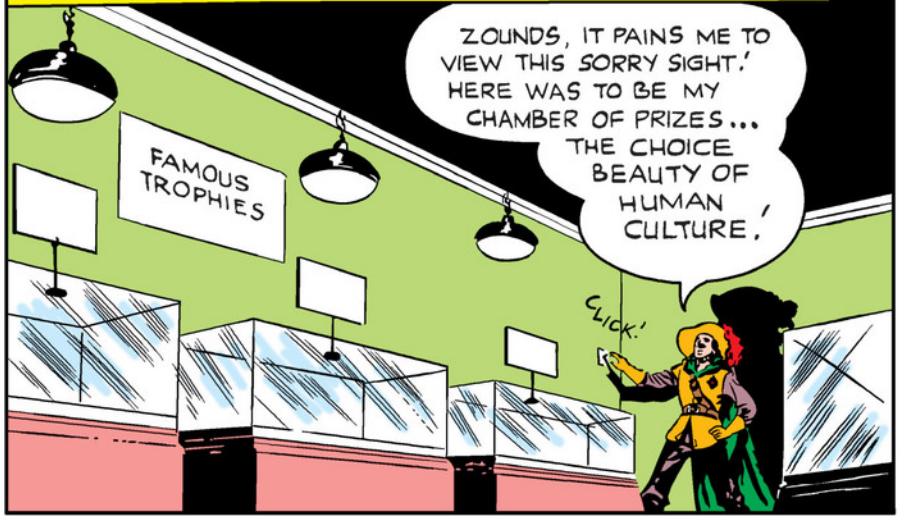
"The Cavalier Rides Again!"



IN A GLOOM-SHROUDED HOUSE, A SHADOWY FIGURE ENTERS A DARKENED ROOM...



THE CLICK OF A SWITCH, AND LIGHTS BLAZE UP TO REVEAL... THE CAVALIER, FLAMBOYANT SWORDSMAN OF CRIME!



ZOUNDS, IT PAINS ME TO VIEW THIS SORRY SIGHT! HERE WAS TO BE MY CHAMBER OF PRIZES... THE CHOICE BEAUTY OF HUMAN CULTURE!

CLICK!

THIS EMPTY DISPLAY BY WAY OF ILLUSTRATION! IT WAS TO HAVE CONTAINED INVALUABLE CURIOS OF THE HISTORY OF SPORTS!



SPORTS MINIATURES

BATMAN FOILED ME ON THIS COUP! BUT I SHALL EVEN THE SCORE! I'LL MAKE HIM APPEAR A VERITABLE BUFFOON! I SHALL HAVE MY TRIUMPH!



SPC MINIAT

AND SO, SEVERAL DAYS LATER...

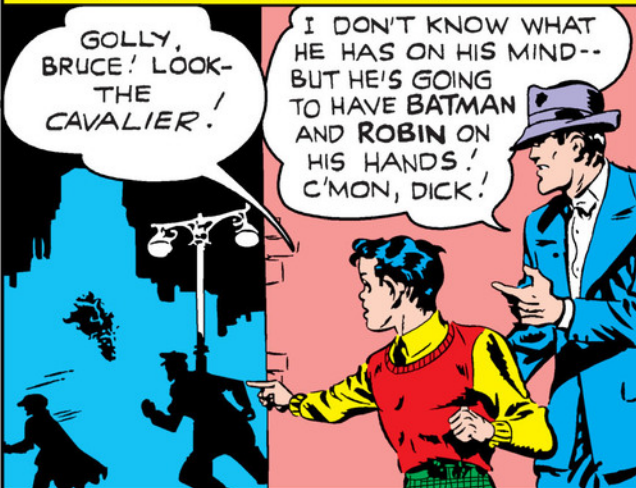
WHA--? THE CAVALIER... OUT ON THE STREET IN BROAD DAYLIGHT! HEY!



GOOD! MY PRESENCE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD WILL SOON BE RE-PORTED!

TWEET

NEARBY, WITHIN EARSHOT OF THE FRANTIC WHISTLE, AND IN SIGHT OF THE STARTLING SCENE... ARE SOCIETY PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON!



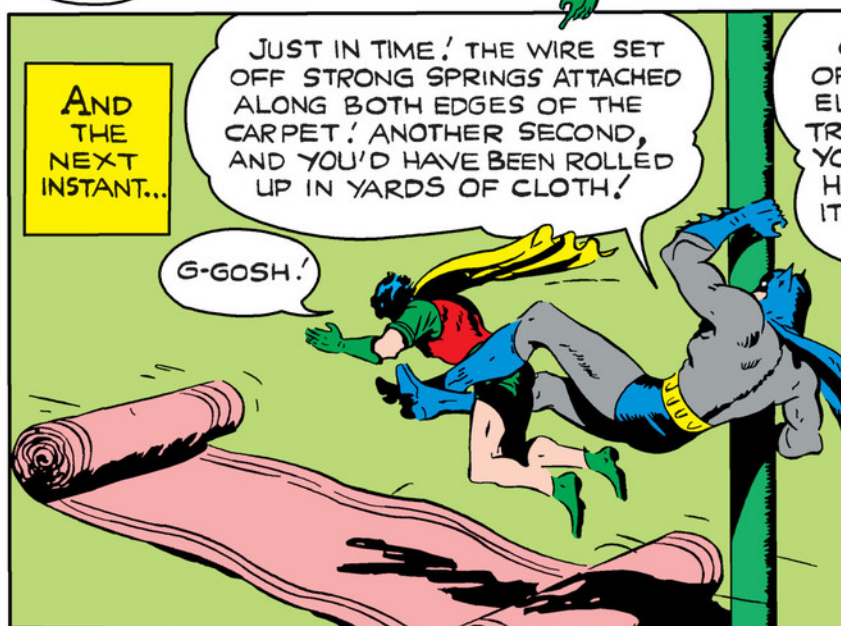
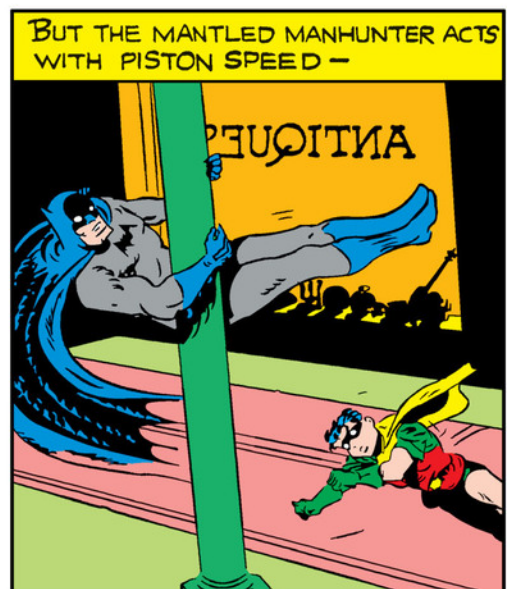
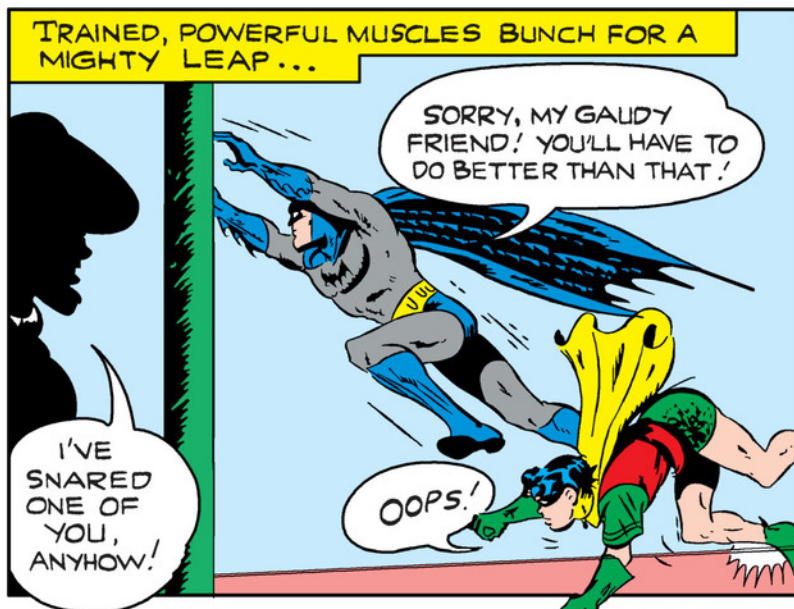
GOLLY, BRUCE! LOOK-- THE CAVALIER!

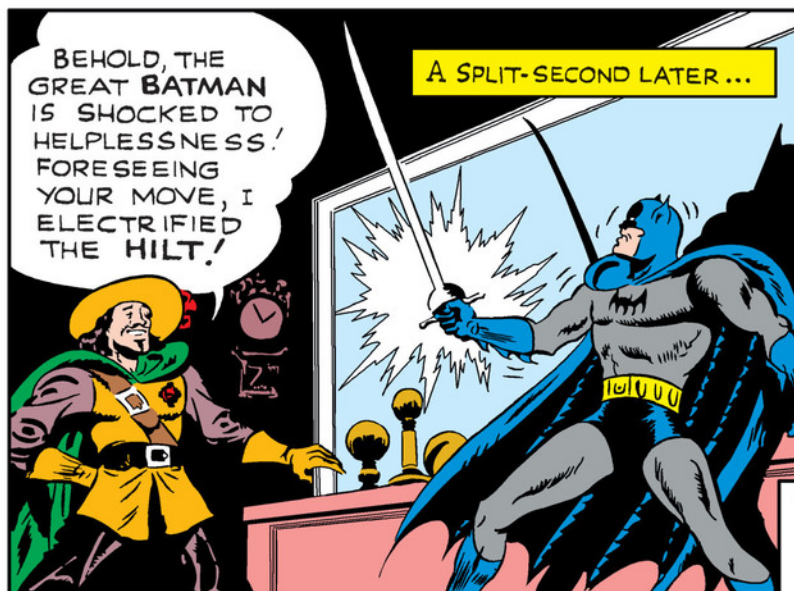
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE HAS ON HIS MIND-- BUT HE'S GOING TO HAVE BATMAN AND ROBIN ON HIS HANDS! C'MON, DICK!

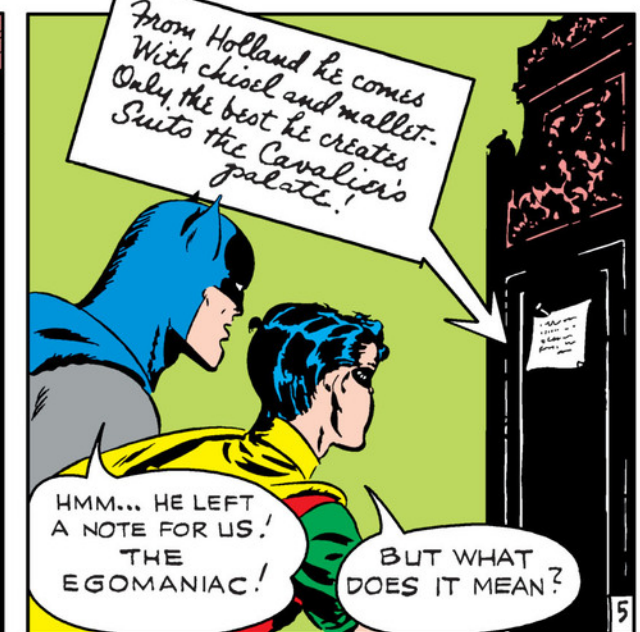
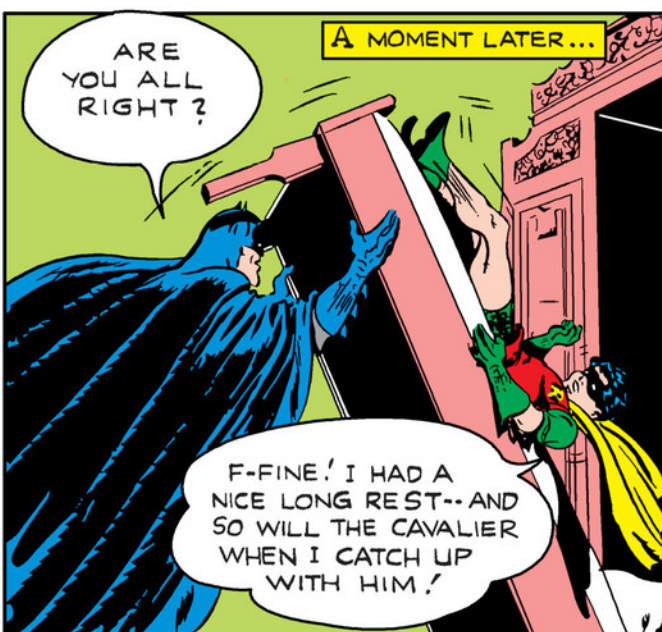
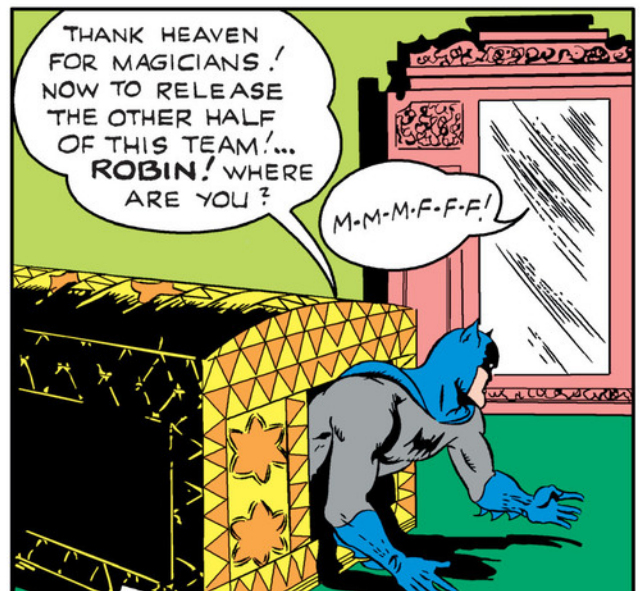
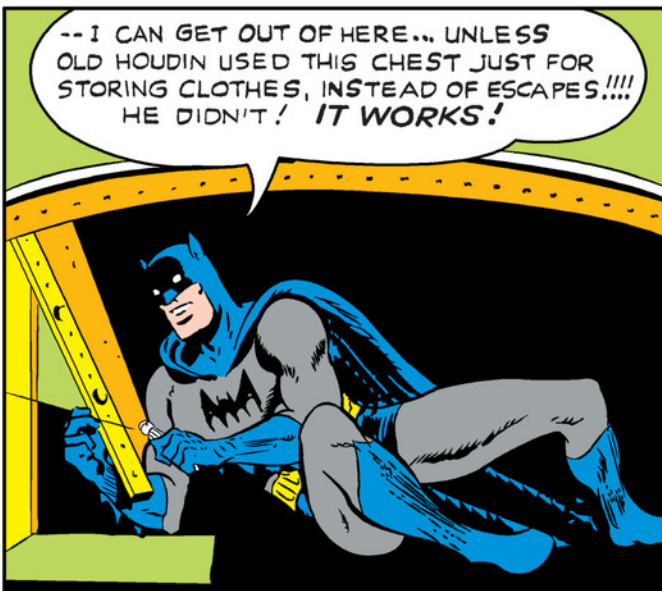
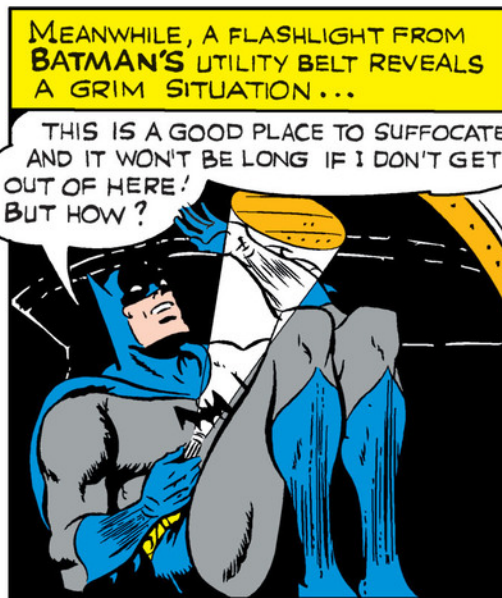
MOMENTS LATER...



HA-- THEY GOT TO THE SCENE SOONER THAN I EXPECTED! WELL, I MUSTN'T DISAPPOINT THEM!







HOME AGAIN, THEY PUZZLE OVER THE CRYPTIC NOTE...

WHAT DO YOU FIGURE THE CAVALIER MEANT-- A DUTCH SCULPTOR?

THAT'S ONE POSSIBILITY! BUT I CAN'T THINK OF ANY GREAT ONE WHO'S IN THIS COUNTRY!

WELL, I HAVE TO GO TO THE CLUB'S ANNUAL DINNER, WHICH WILL GIVE ME TIME TO THINK! MEANWHILE YOU'D BETTER GO TO BED!

BED? AGAIN? I JUST GOT OUT OF ONE!

SOON, AT BRUCE'S EXCLUSIVE SOCIETY CLUB...

THERE'S THAT BRUCE WAYNE COMING IN OVER THERE! FINE CHAP... IF HE'D EVER DO A STITCH OF WORK!

YES! A SHAME, ISN'T IT?

PRETTY DULL AFFAIR, EH, DRAKE?

MUCH TOO DULL, WAYNE! OH, WELL, I'M USED TO BEING BORED!

AND LATER, BY A QUIRK OF FATE, TWO BITTER FOES CHAT PLEASANTLY-- UNAWARE OF EACH OTHER'S TRUE IDENTITY!

WORDS... MERE WORDS... SHREWD WORDS TO HIDE THE EXCITING TRUTH! FOR THE FOLLOWING NIGHT...

DIAMOND CUTTERS

BY MY FAITH, MY HANDS ITCH WITH GREED! IF BATMAN AND ROBIN SEEK TO BALK ME, THEY WILL RUE THE DAY!

HERE'S HOPIN' THEY GOT OTHER THINGS TO DO, BOSS!

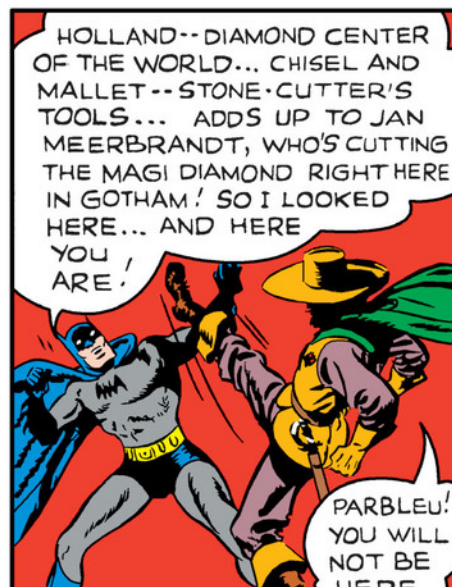
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?... UGH!

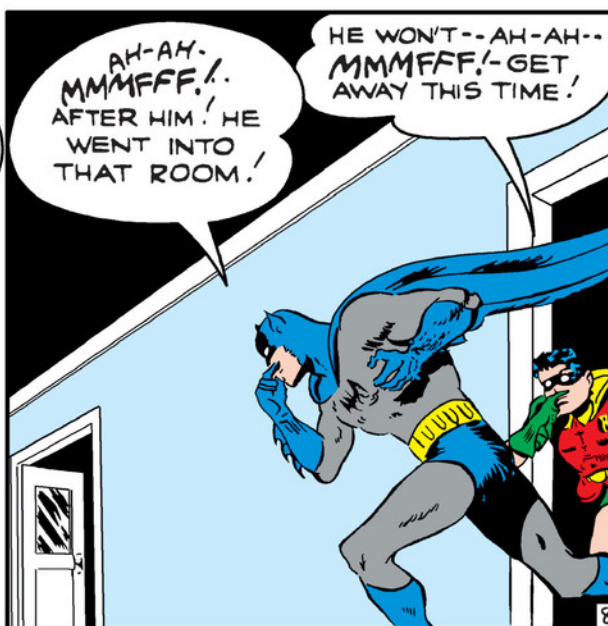
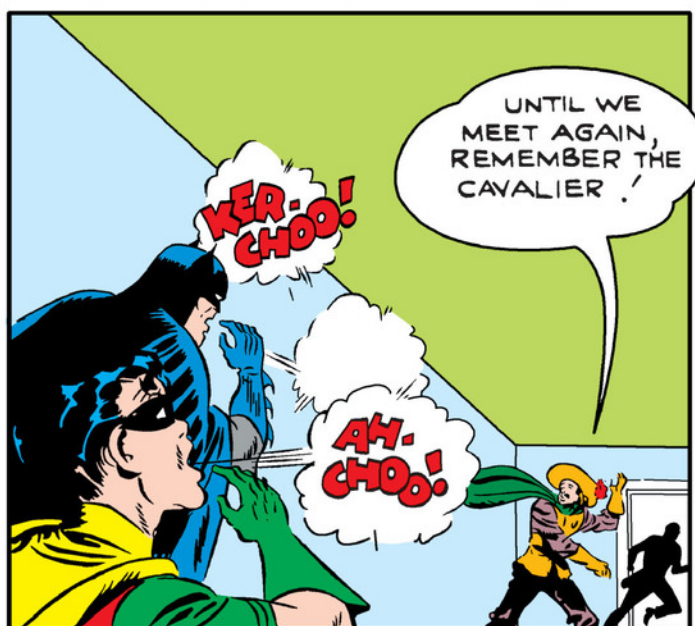
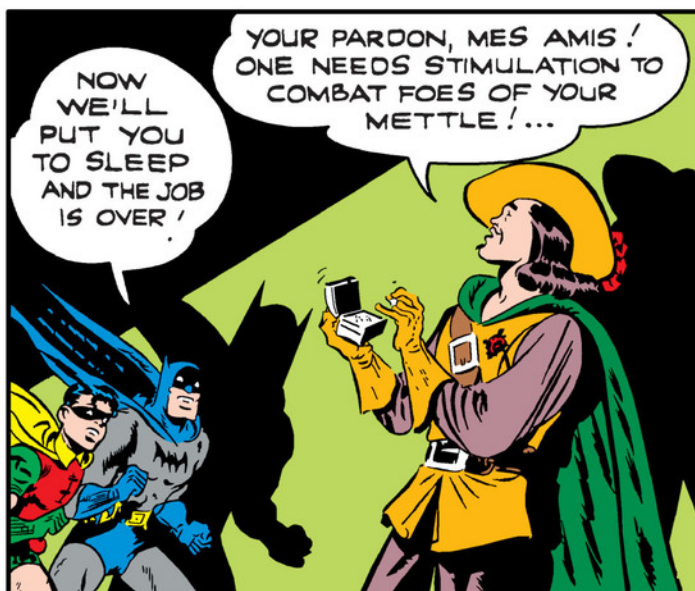
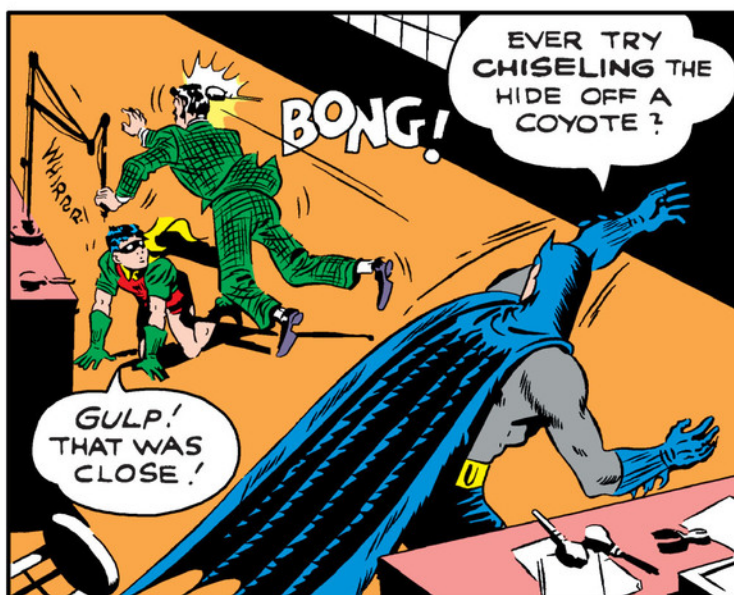
I COME TO ASSIST MYSELF TO VARIOUS ASSORTED VALUABLES... AND THE LEADEN PELLET AT THE END OF THIS KERCHIEF WILL LET YOU SLUMBER WHILE I DO!

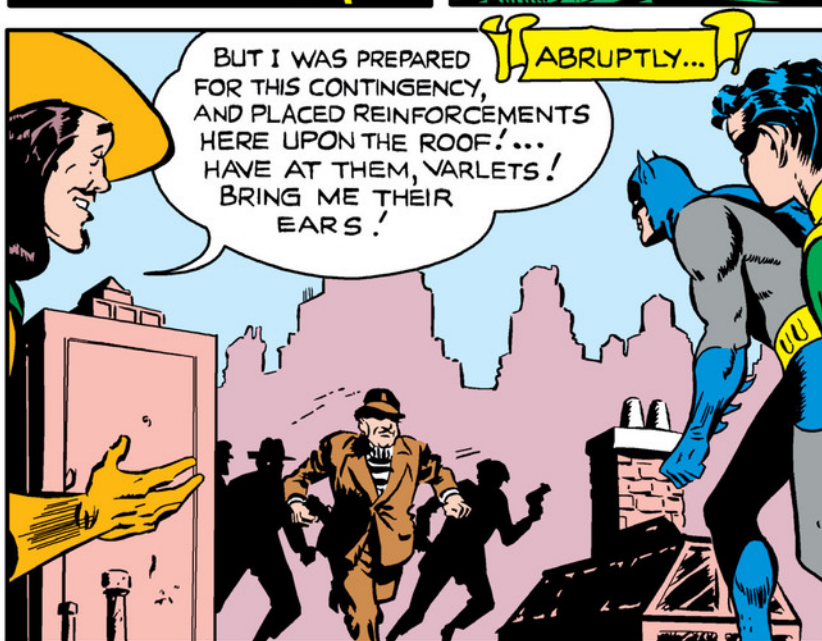
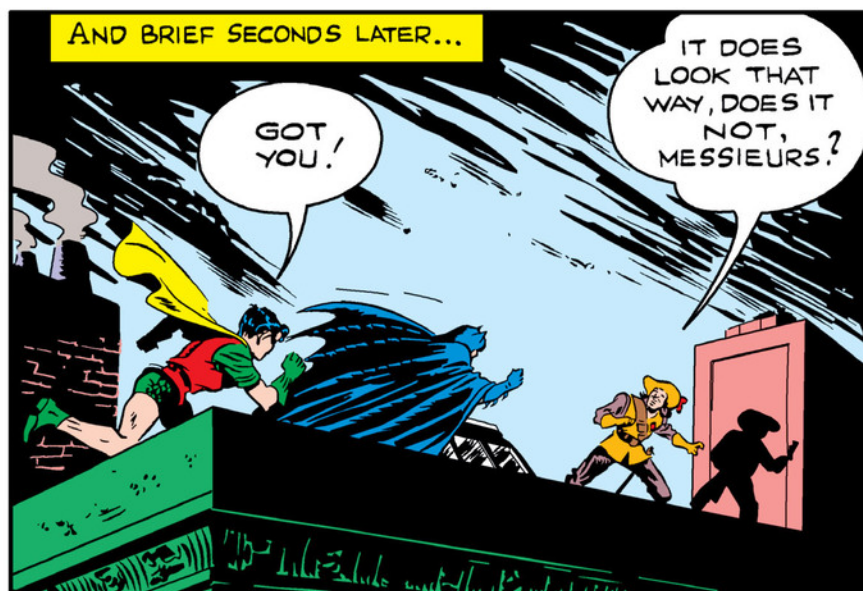
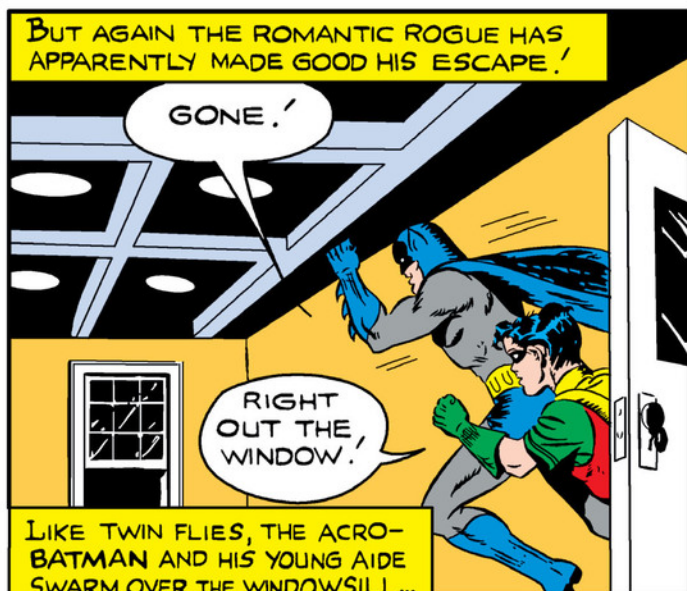
SOON...

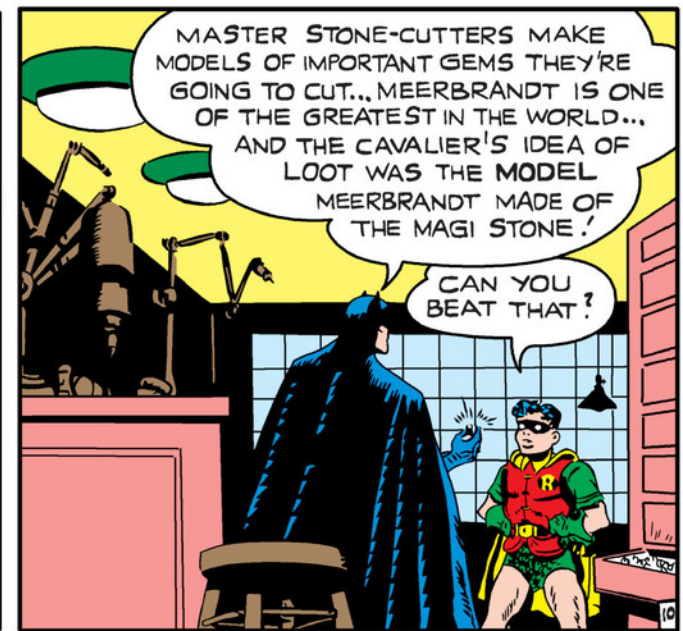
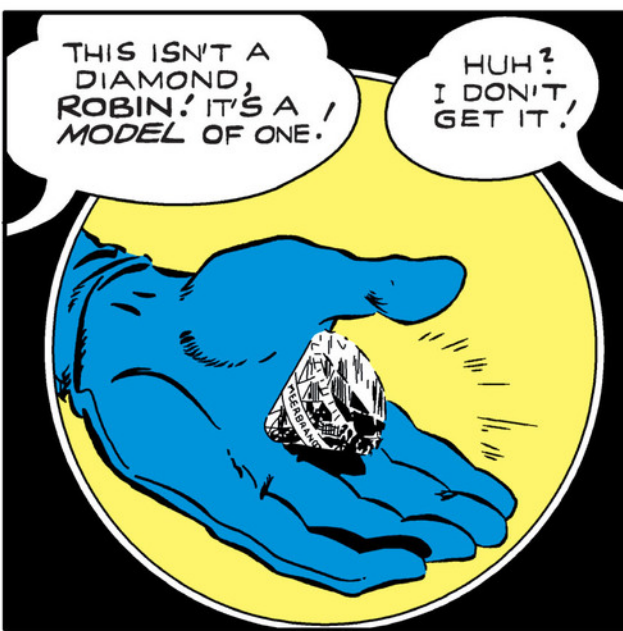
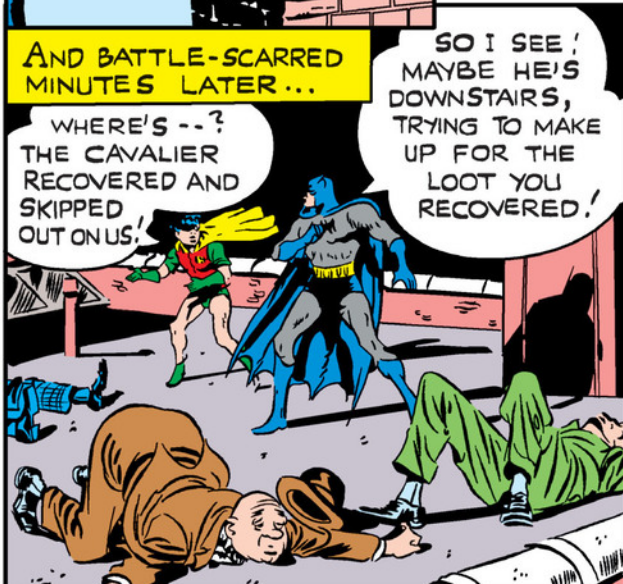
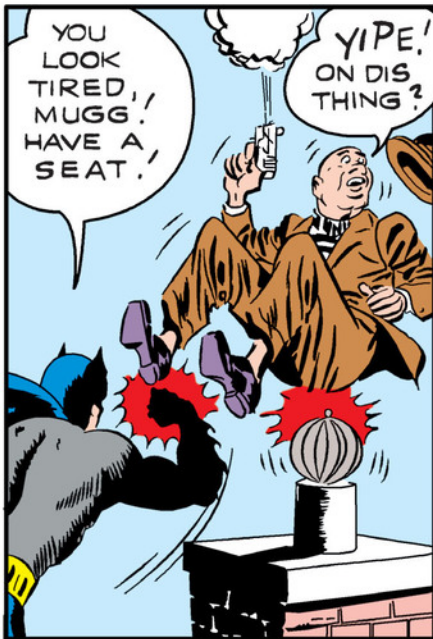
'SBLOOD! WHAT WONDROUS BEAUTY!

WE GOTTA WORK FAST, CAVALIER! LET'S HURRY UP!









PRESENTLY, AFTER THE LAW HAS TAKEN OVER...

THE POLICE NEEDN'T HAVE BOTHERED CALLING YOU, MR. MEERBRANDT! THE ONLY THING THAT WAS TAKEN WAS THE MODEL OF THE MAGI DIAMOND...AND WE GOT THAT BACK!

BODT WHY SHOULD ANYVUN WANT IT? IT ISS WORTHLESS TO EFFERY-BODY BODT ME!

YOU DON'T KNOW THE CAVALIER!

MEANWHILE, AT THE DRAKE RESIDENCE IN AN EXCLUSIVE SUBURB OF GOTHAM CITY...

ONCE MORE I RETURN WITH EMPTY HANDS! 'TIS ENOUGH TO BREAK THE SPIRIT OF A STRONG MAN!

FAMOUS TROPHIES

THIS WAS TO BE THE PRIZE OF MY CHAMBER OF PRIZES... BUT AGAIN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HAVE FOILED ME!

MEERBRANDT MODEL OF MAGI DIAMOND

ZOUNDS! THEY ARE MOST FORMIDABLE OPPONENTS! WHAT SKILL IN DEDUCTION...WHAT COORDINATION IN COMBAT... WHAT SAVOIR FAIRE IN ALL THAT THEY DO! BY MY FAITH, THEY ARE INDEED WORTHY FOES OF THE CAVALIER!

MEERB M
SI
OND
R-RIP

I WOULD GIVE MY ENTIRE FORTUNE--AND IT IS NO SMALL SUM-- IF I COULD BUT KNOW WHO THEY ARE!

AND AT THAT SAME MOMENT, IN THE WAYNE RESIDENCE... ALSO IN AN EXCLUSIVE SUBURB OF GOTHAM CITY...

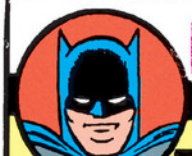
WELL, THE CAVALIER GOT AWAY AGAIN! BUT WE RUINED HIS QUEER ROBBERY FOR HIM, AND CAPTURED HIS GANG!

IT CERTAINLY WAS A STRUGGLE, THOUGH! HE'S A SHREWD CUSTOMER... AND HE'S NO EASY MARK TO TANGLE WITH IN A FIGHT!

YES, THE CAVALIER IS ONE OF THE CLEVEREST--AND STRANGEST--CRIMINALS WE'VE EVER ENCOUNTERED! I WONDER WHO HE REALLY IS...

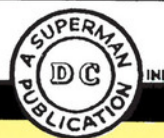
YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF CHANCE TO FIND OUT, **BATMAN**! FOR THE GRANDEE OF GANGSTER-DOM RETURNS WITH AN-OTHER SLY AND SINISTER PLOT IN A FUTURE

BATMAN MAGAZINE!



No. 86

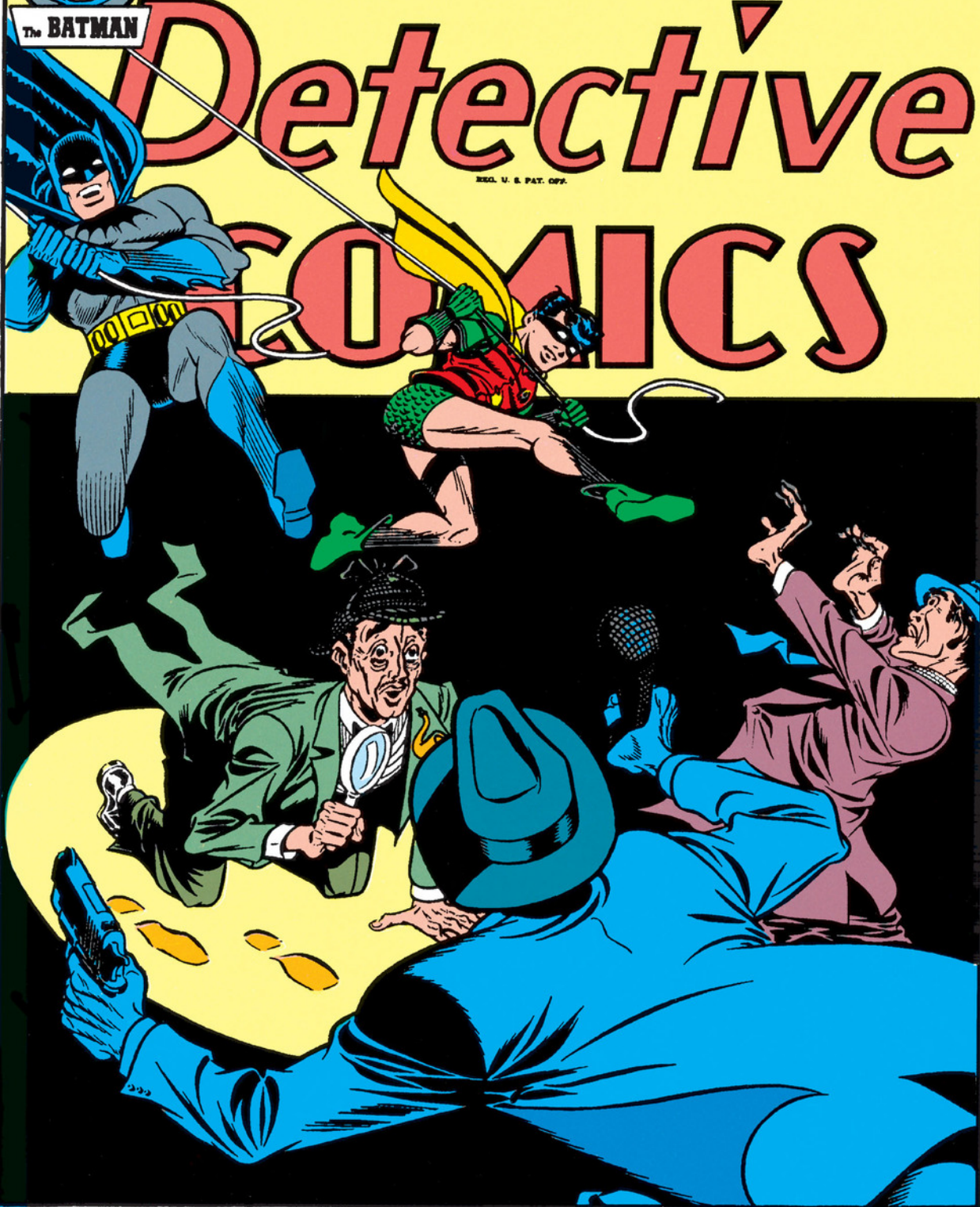
APRIL...



The BATMAN

Detective COMICS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.



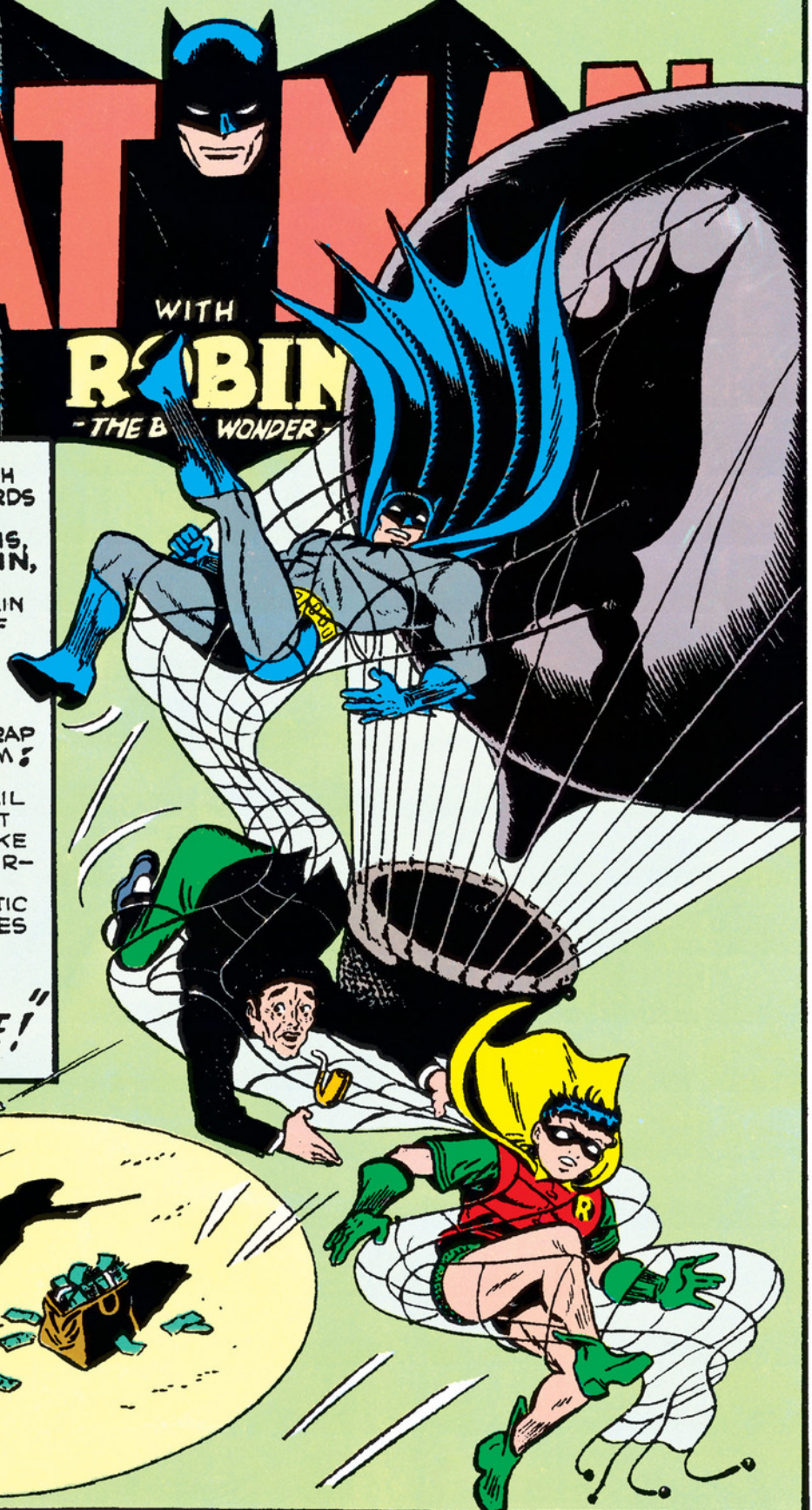
BATMAN

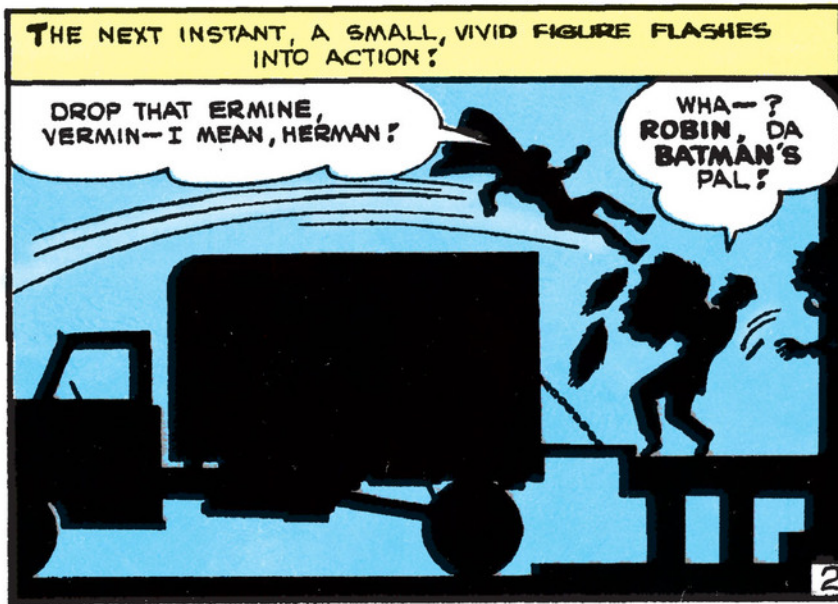
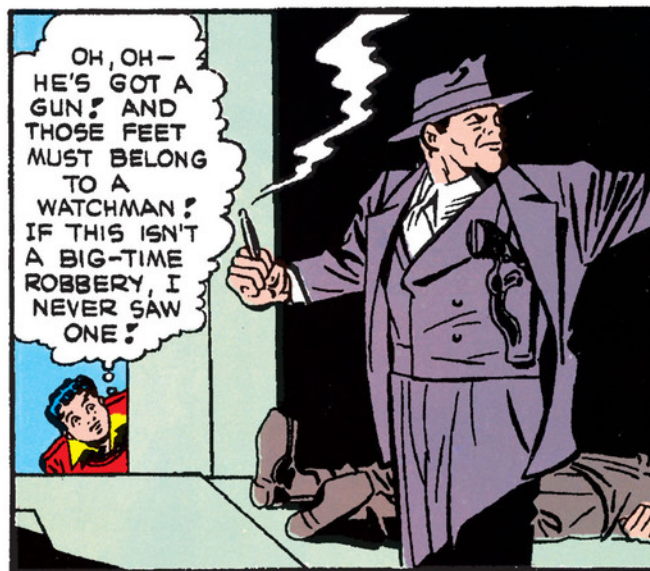
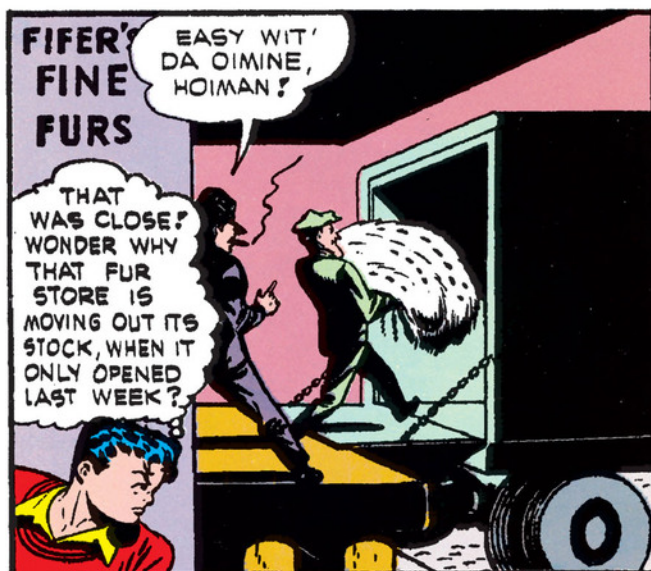
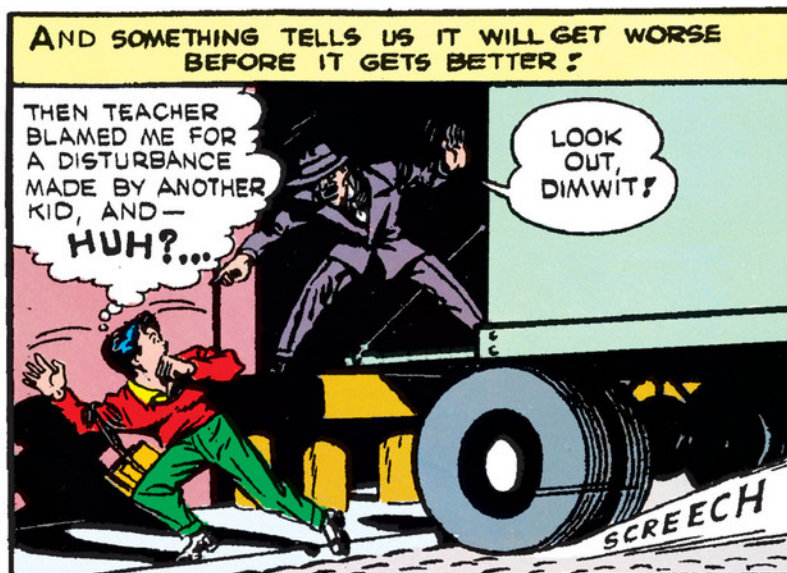
WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

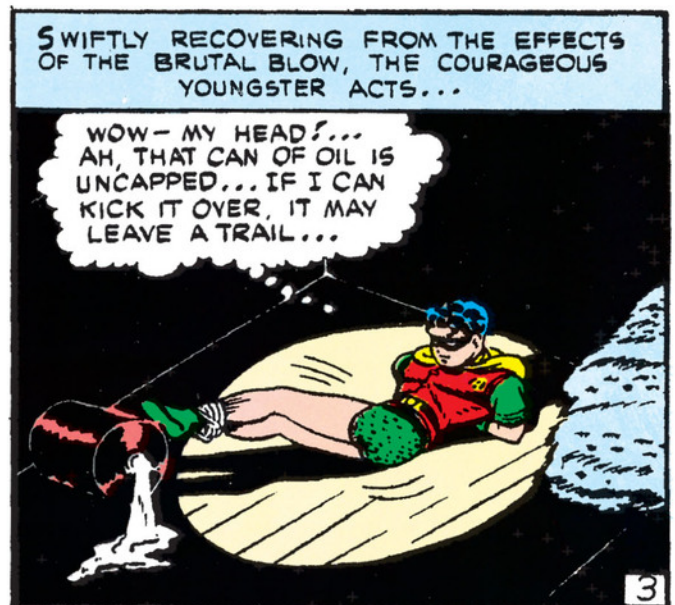
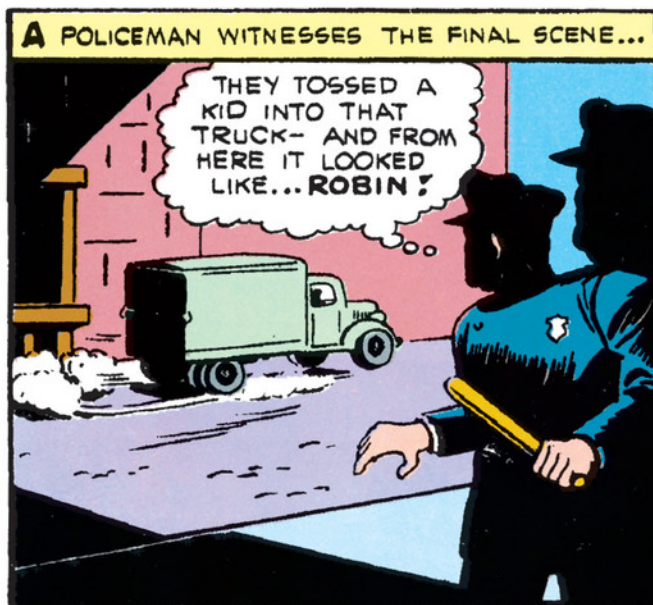
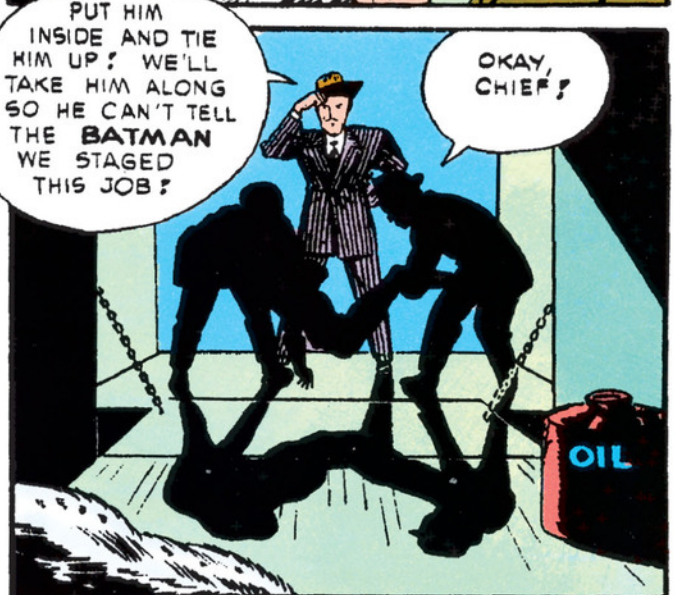
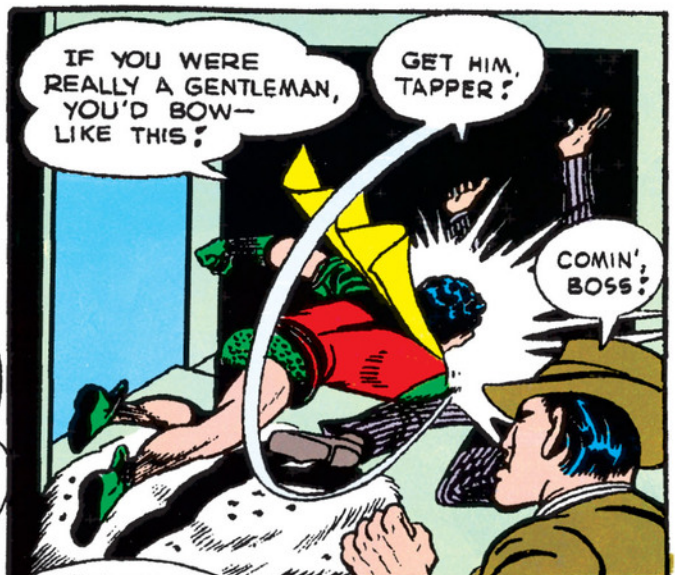
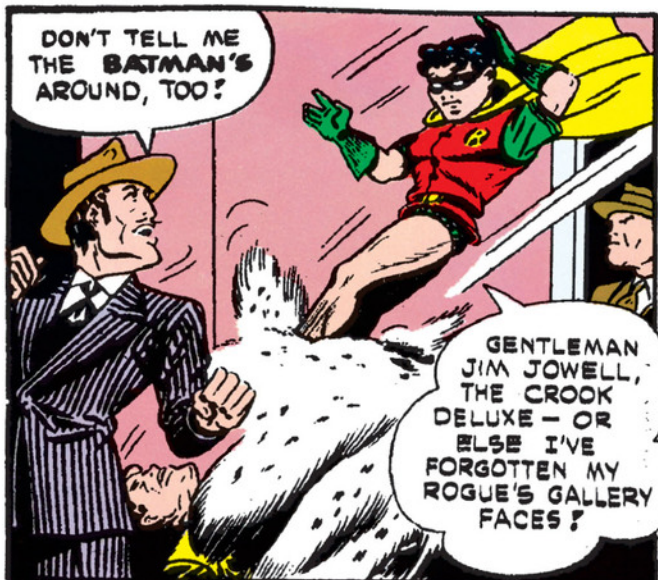
FATE, IN A WASPISH MOOD, STACKS THE CARDS AGAINST THOSE UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS, **BATMAN AND ROBIN**, TO GIVE A CUNNING UNDERWORLD CHIEFTAIN A GLOATING HOUR OF TRIUMPH — AND NOT EVEN ALFRED, THE SLEUTHING BUTLER, CAN FIGURE A WAY OUT OF THE DEATH TRAP THAT CLOSES ON THEM!

BUT WHERE THE CRIME-SMASHERS FAIL INDIVIDUALLY AGAINST GANGSTERS WHO STRIKE BY LAND, SEA AND AIR — TOGETHER THEY ENGINEER A DRAMATIC TURNING OF THE TABLES AS —

"DANGER STRIKES THREE!"







AT THE BRUCE WAYNE HOME, ALFRED, BUTLER EXTRAORDINARY, HAS HAD TROUBLES ALSO...

UNPARDONABLE OF ME, SCORCHIN' THE MAWSTER'S BEST TROUSERS?... I'LL TUNE IN THE NEWS TILL MY NERVES QUIET DOWN...



A BOY'S HEROIC SINGLE-HANDED BATTLE AGAINST FUR THIEVES AN HOUR AGO ENDED IN THE KIDNAPPING OF **ROBIN**, FIGHTING PARTNER OF THE **BATMAN**—

MY WORD!

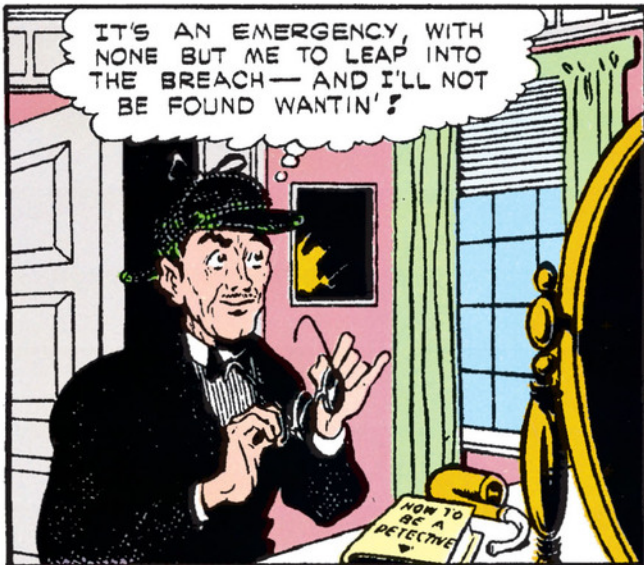


— AND THE THIEVES, WITH THEIR PRISONER AND PRECIOUS LOOT, ESCAPED IN A POWERFUL TRUCK...

MR. WAYNE—THE **BATMAN**— HAS WARNED ME ABOUT GOIN' AWFTER CRIMINALS WITHOUT HIM— BUT HE'S FISHIN' AND CAWN'T BE REACHED!



IT'S AN EMERGENCY, WITH NONE BUT ME TO LEAP INTO THE BREACH— AND I'LL NOT BE FOUND WANTIN'!



THE FIFER FUR STORE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER...

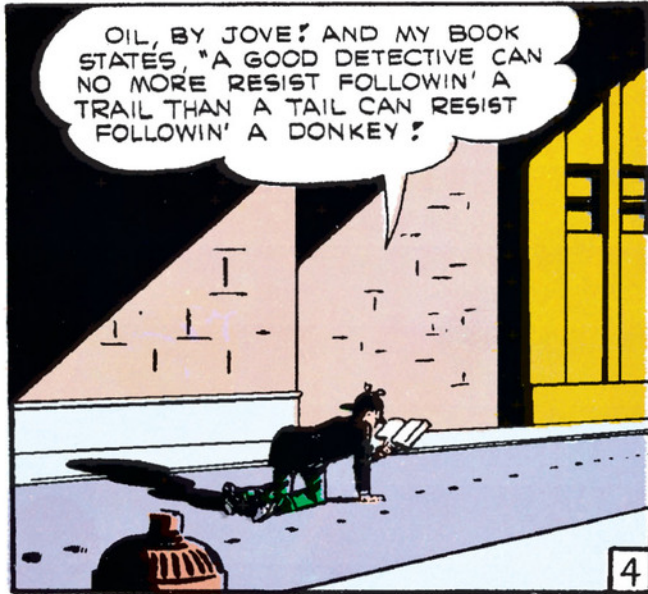


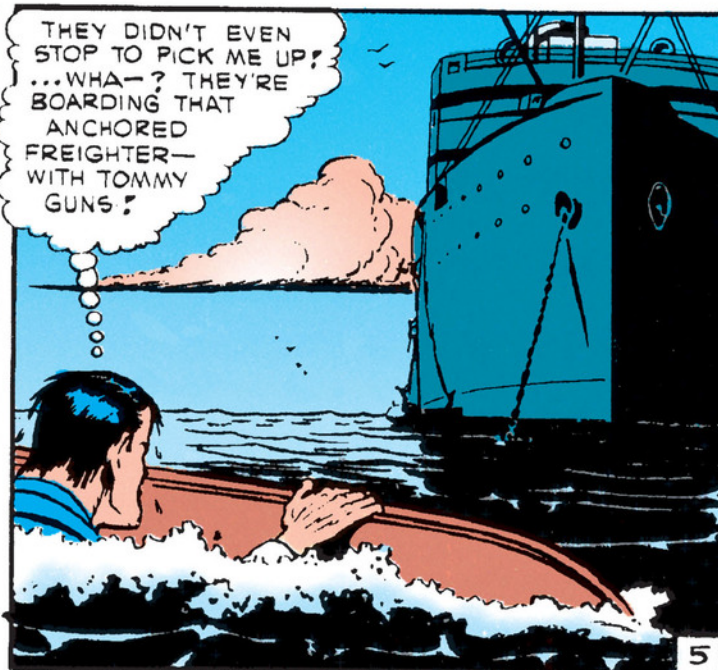
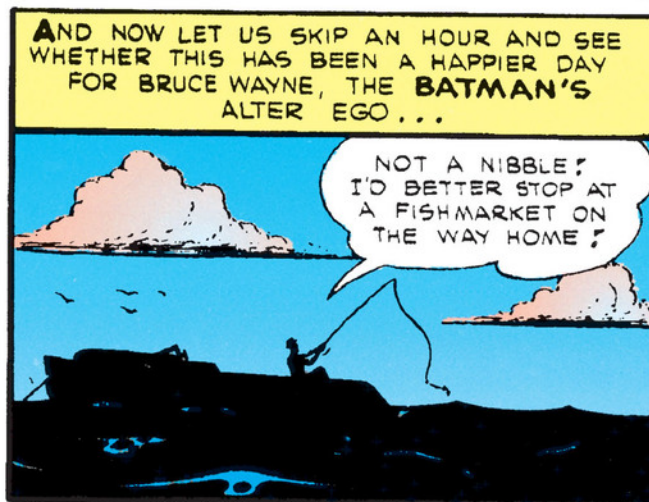
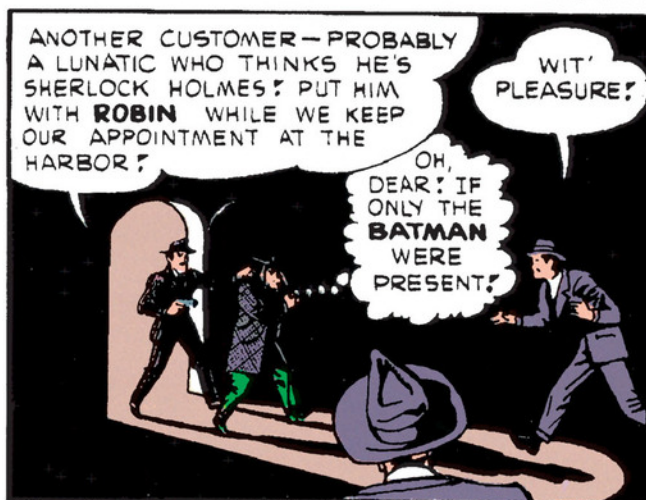
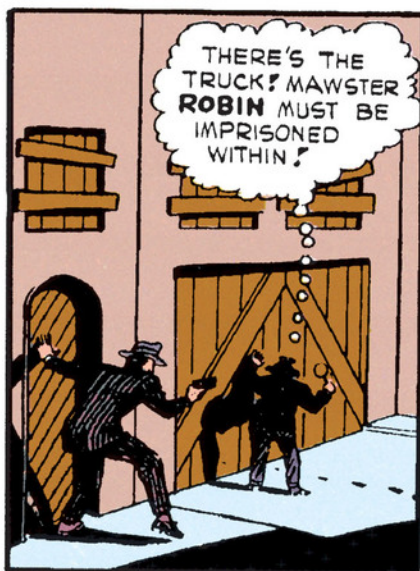
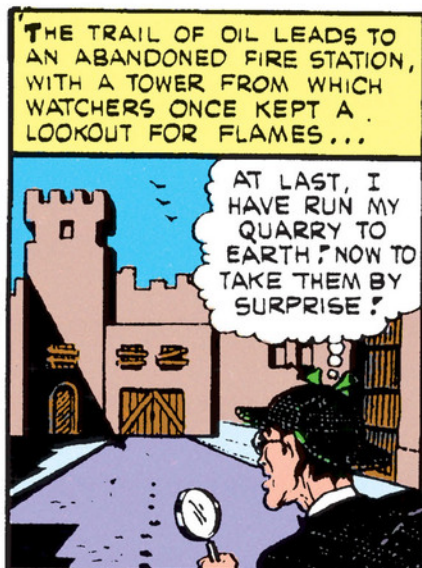
THE CROOKS SHOVED A GUN IN MY RIBS 'FORE I KNEW WHAT WAS UP, AN' LEFT THAT WAY WITH LOOT WORTH A QUARTER-MILLION!

LET THEM BEWARE! I SHALL TRACK THEM TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD, IF NEED BE!



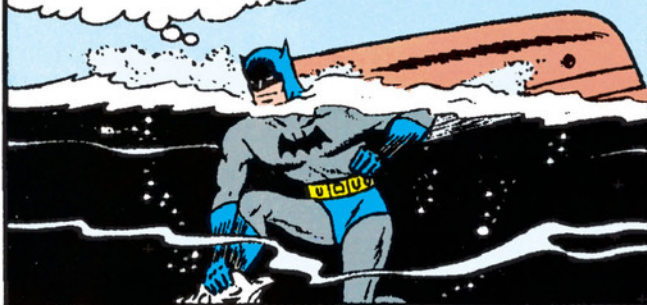
OIL, BY JOVE! AND MY BOOK STATES, "A GOOD DETECTIVE CAN NO MORE RESIST FOLLOWIN' A TRAIL THAN A TAIL CAN RESIST FOLLOWIN' A DONKEY!"





SWIFTLY, BRUCE DISCARDS HIS FISHING TOGS FOR A COLORFUL COSTUME FEARED BY OUTLAWS EVERYWHERE...

MAYBE I'LL TAKE A CATCH IN WITH ME, AFTER ALL!



AND POWERFUL SWIMMING STROKES SPEED THE MIGHTY BATMAN TOWARD A NEW ADVENTURE?

THE NERVE OF THEM— DELIBERATELY UPSETTING MY BOAT, THEN, ATTEMPTING PIRACY RIGHT IN GOTHAM CITY HARBOR?



ON THE FREIGHTER'S DECK, MACHINE GUNS COW THE SKELETON CREW LEFT IN CHARGE...

THERE ARE TWO CHESTS OF PLATINUM IN THE STRONG ROOM! MAKE THE PURSER GIVE THEM TO YOU, HERMAN AND SHANK— OR ELSE!

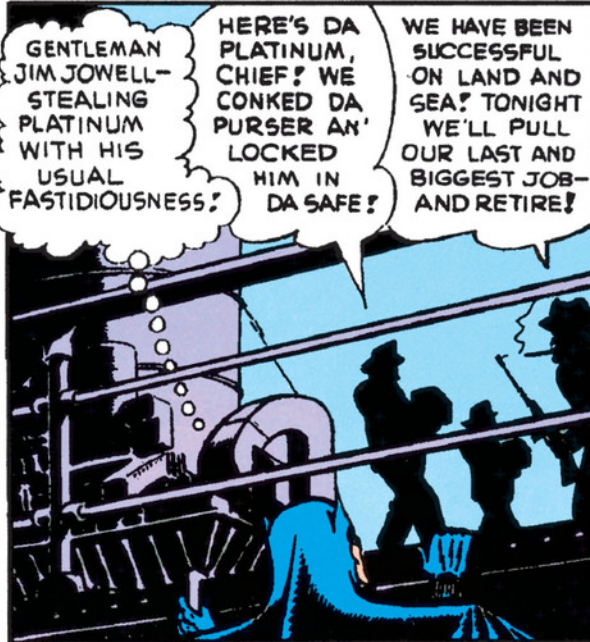


DON'T SHOOT! I'LL... UNLOCK THE VAULT!

GENTLEMAN JIM JOWELL— STEALING PLATINUM WITH HIS USUAL FASTIDIOUSNESS?

HERE'S DA PLATINUM, CHIEF! WE CONKED DA PURSER AN' LOCKED HIM IN DA SAFE!

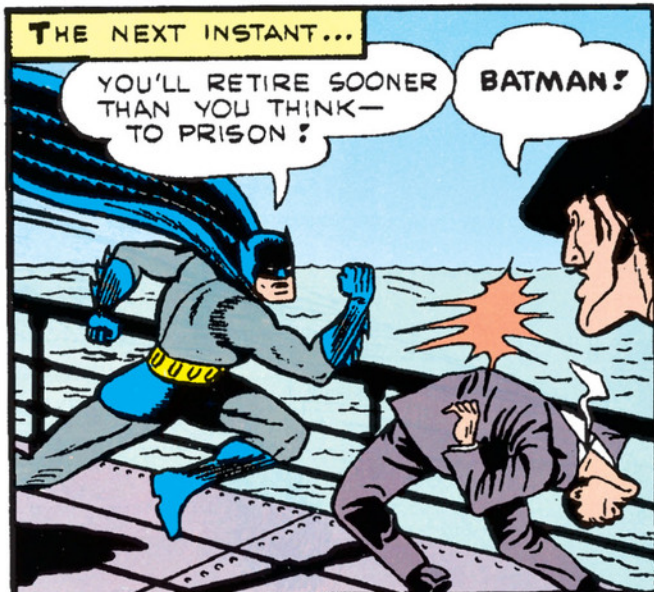
WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL ON LAND AND SEA! TONIGHT WE'LL PULL OUR LAST AND BIGGEST JOB— AND RETIRE!



THE NEXT INSTANT...

YOU'LL RETIRE SOONER THAN YOU THINK— TO PRISON!

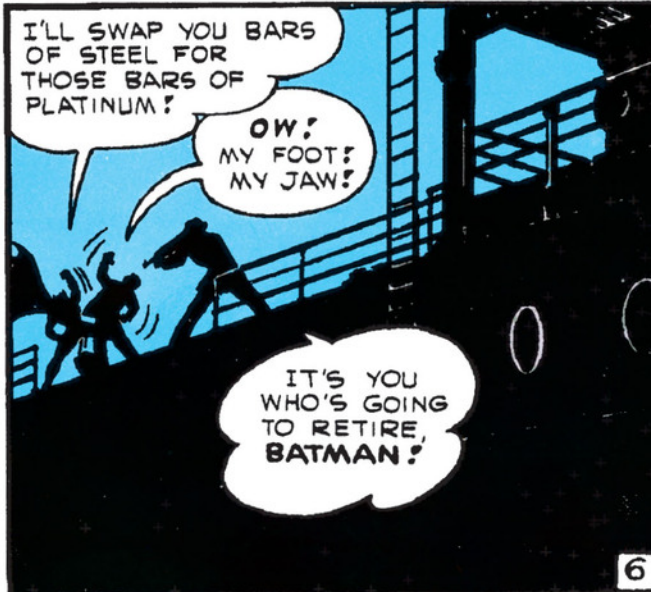
BATMAN!

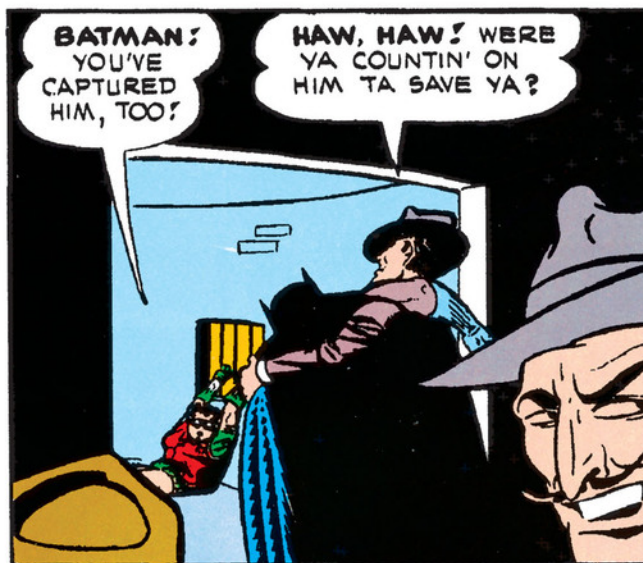
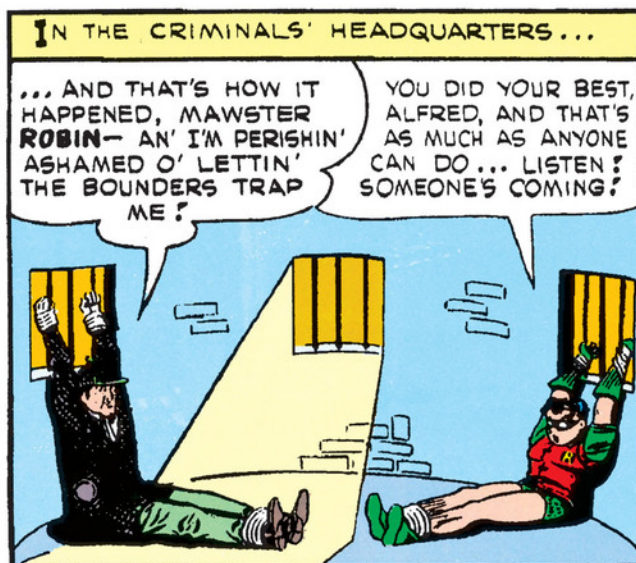
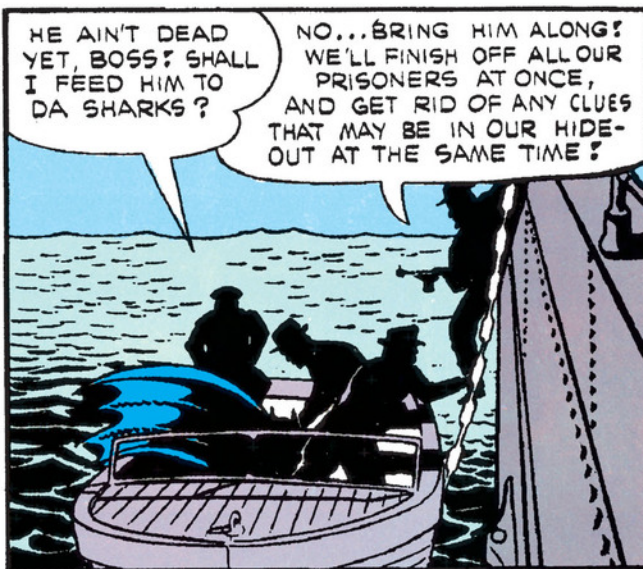
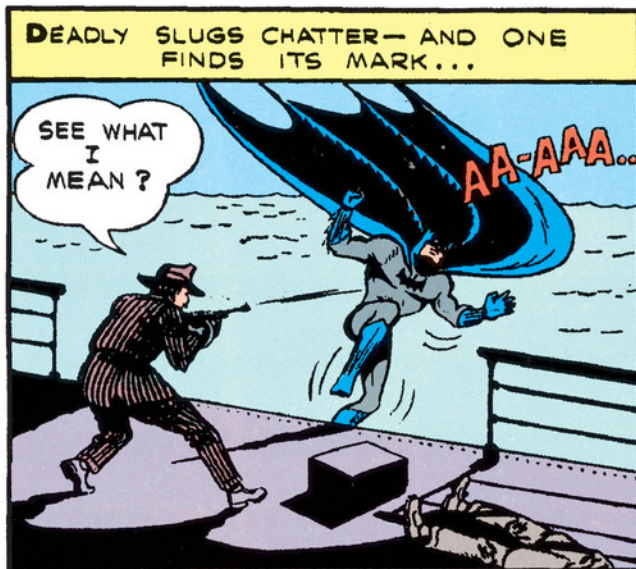


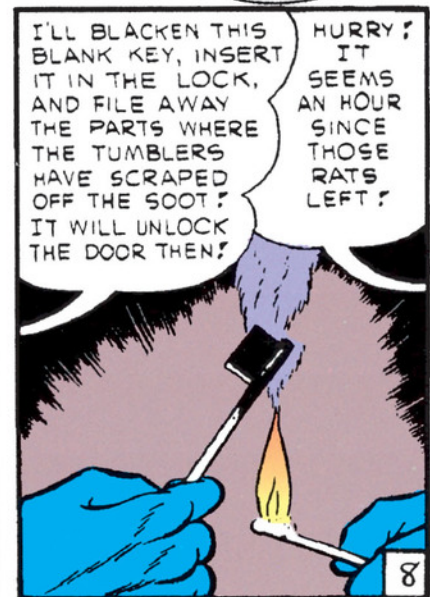
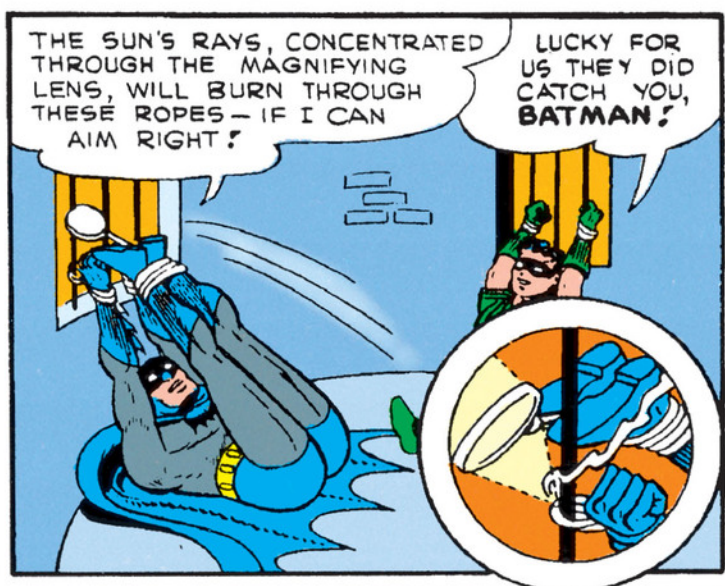
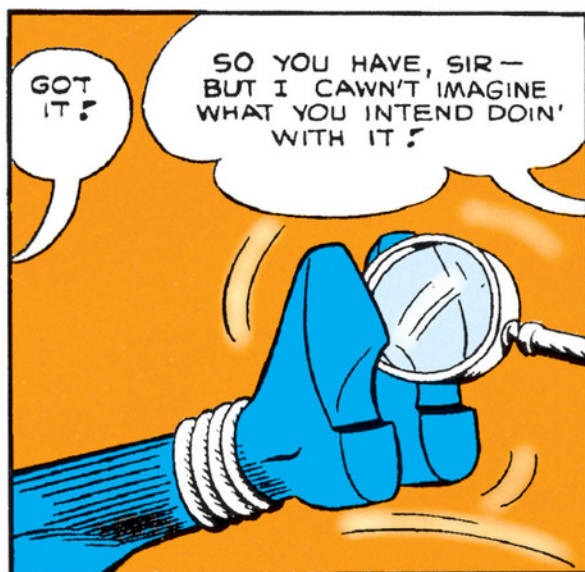
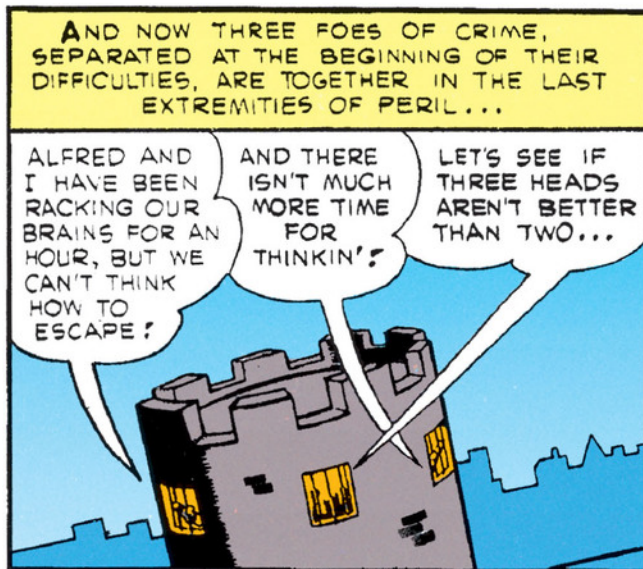
I'LL SWAP YOU BARS OF STEEL FOR THOSE BARS OF PLATINUM!

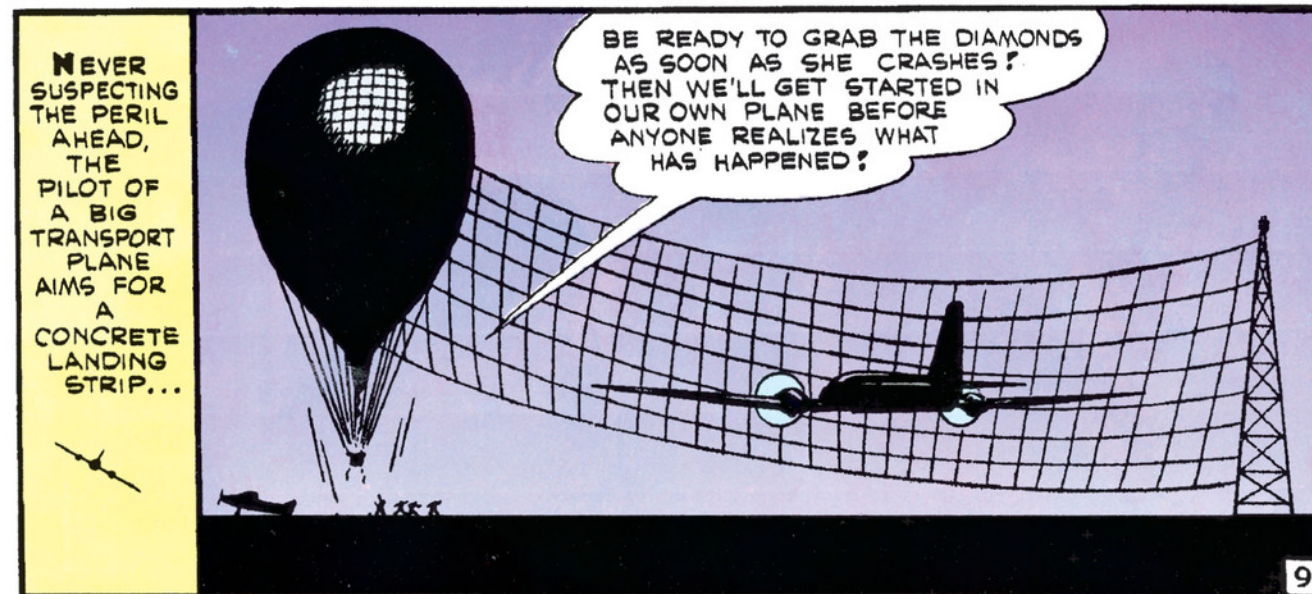
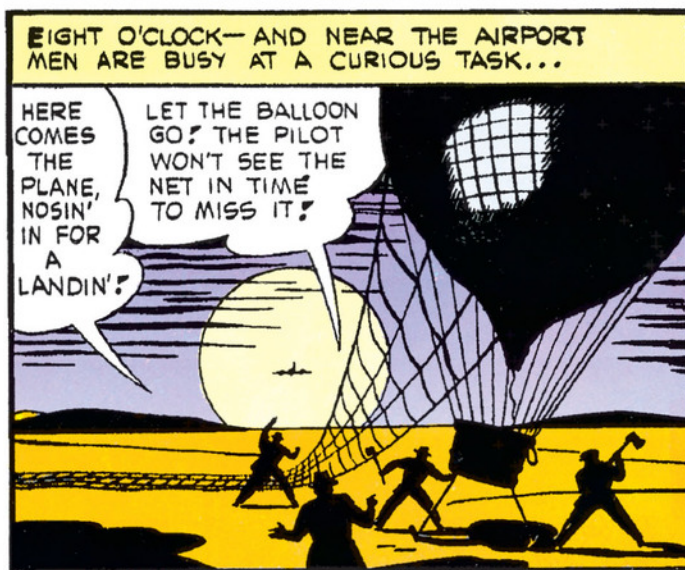
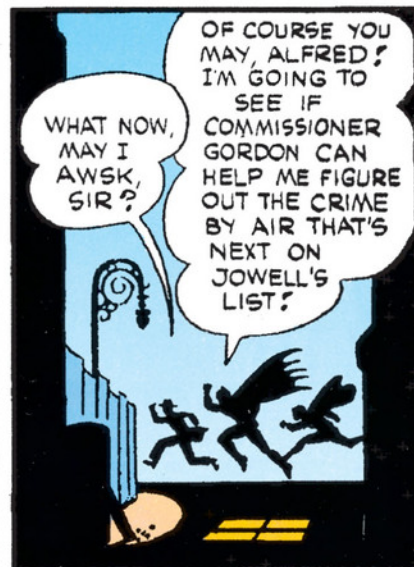
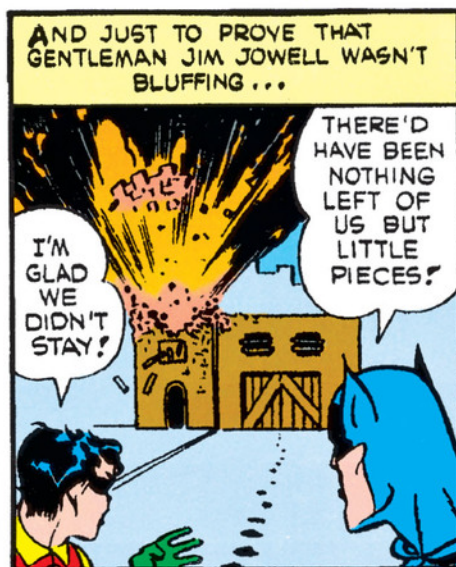
OW! MY FOOT! MY JAW!

IT'S YOU WHO'S GOING TO RETIRE, BATMAN!





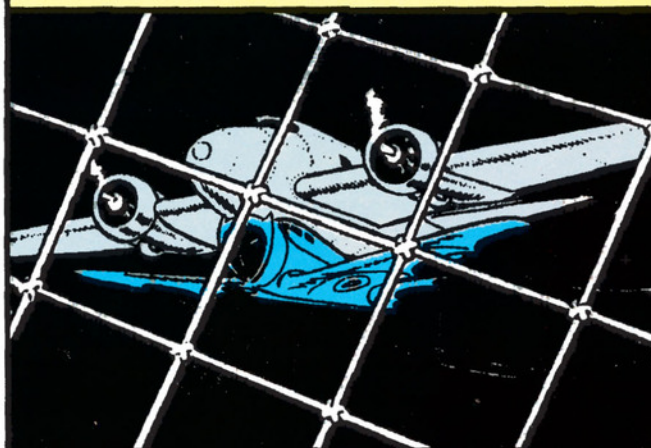




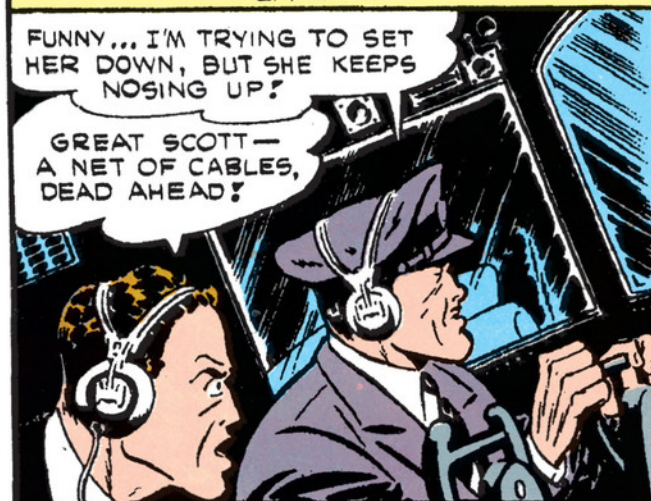
SUDDENLY, A STREAMLINED BATWINGED CRAFT DARTS WITH PHENOMENAL SPEED BENEATH THE HUGE TRANSPORT...



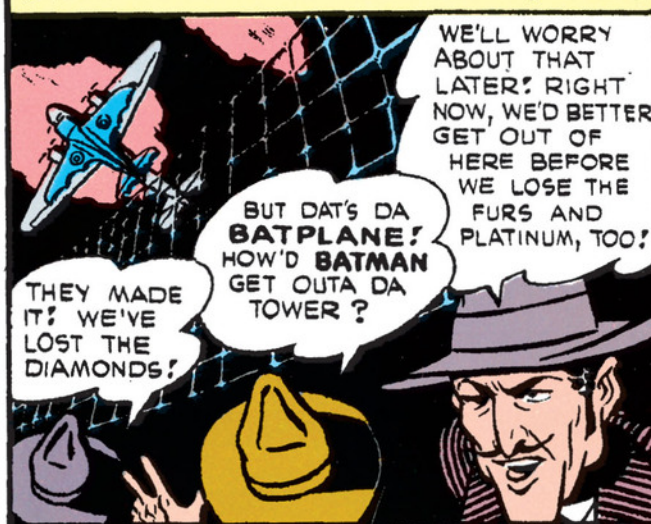
THE BATPLANE'S MOTOR HAS TERRIFIC POWER— AND EVERY OUNCE OF IT IS NEEDED AS IT STRAINS TO LIFT THE TWIN-ENGINED GIANT...



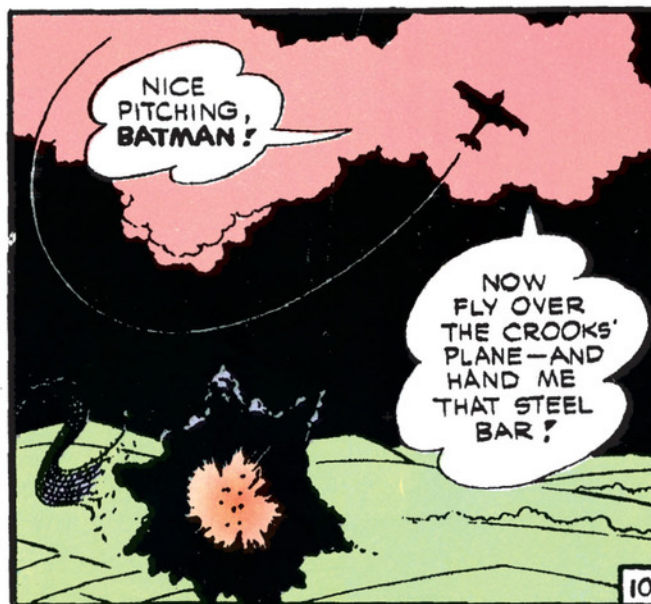
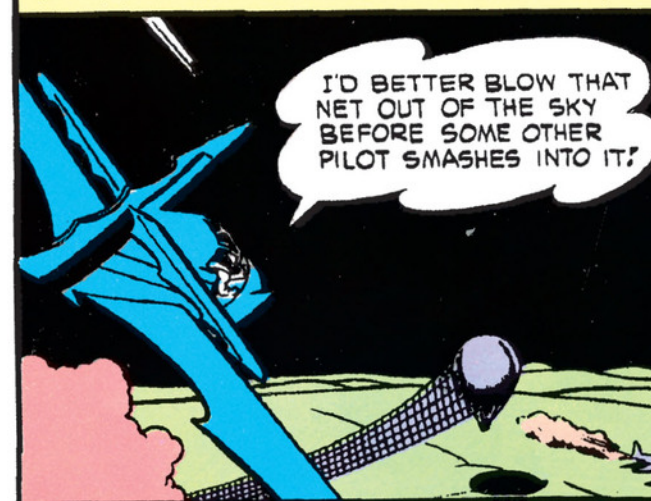
IN THE PILOT'S COMPARTMENT OF THE BIG PLANE...

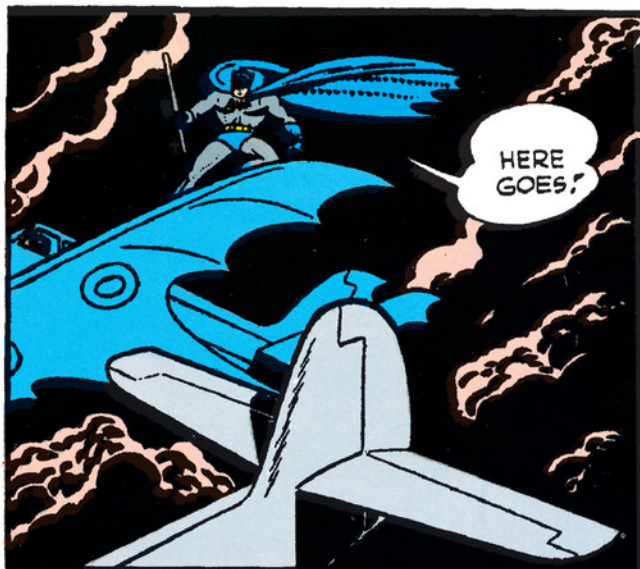


DISASTER IS AVERTED BY SCANT INCHES!

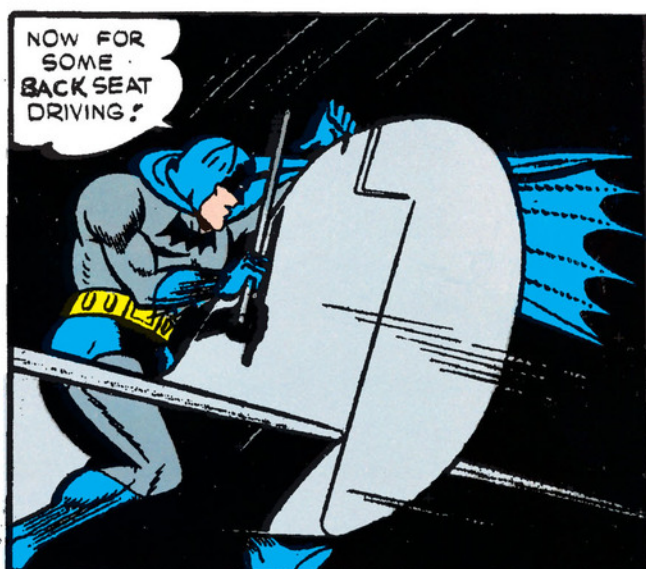


AS THE BATPLANE SWERVES FROM THE TRANSPORT, **BATMAN MIXES THE CONTENTS OF TWO VIALS FROM HIS UTILITY BELT...**



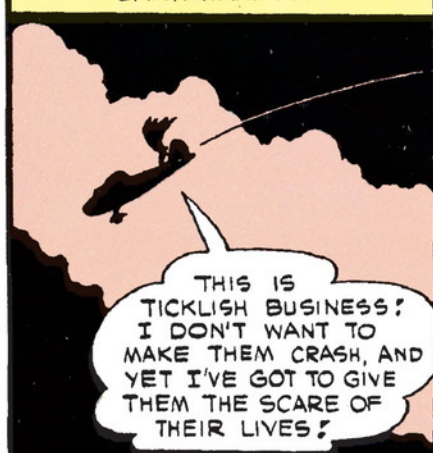


HERE GOES!



NOW FOR SOME BACK SEAT DRIVING!

FORCING THE TAIL ELEVATORS DOWN, THE BATMAN CAUSES THE FLEEING PLANE TO DIVE EARTHWARD...



THIS IS TICKLISH BUSINESS! I DON'T WANT TO MAKE THEM CRASH, AND YET I'VE GOT TO GIVE THEM THE SCARE OF THEIR LIVES!

UNAWARE OF THEIR UNINVITED PASSENGER, THE CRIMINALS THINK THE CONTROLS OF THEIR SHIP HAVE JAMMED...



YOU'RE DIVING STRAIGHT FOR THE AIRPORT, FOOL! PULL OUT OF IT!

I—I CAN'T!

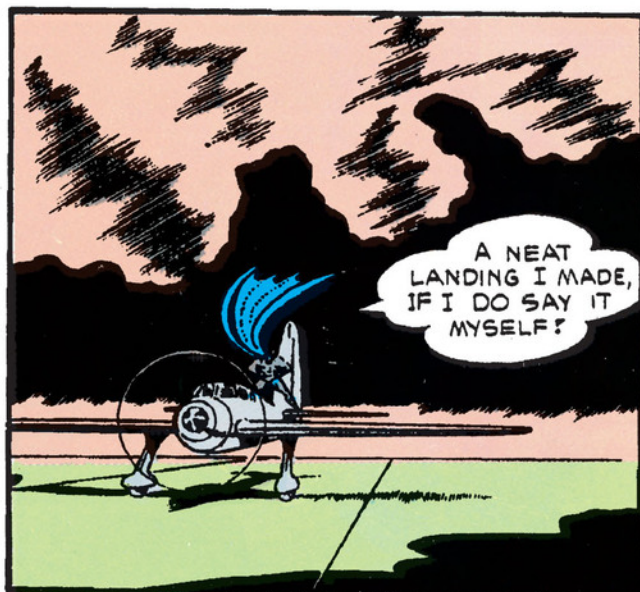
OOOHHH— WHY DID I EVER LET MESELF IN FOR DIS?

THERE! JUST MADE IT! BUT SOMETHIN'S PLENTY WRONG!



LET US OUTA HERE! WE AIN'T GOIN' NO FARTHER IN DIS CRATE!

HERMAN'S RIGHT! SET HER DOWN, TILL WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT'S WRONG!

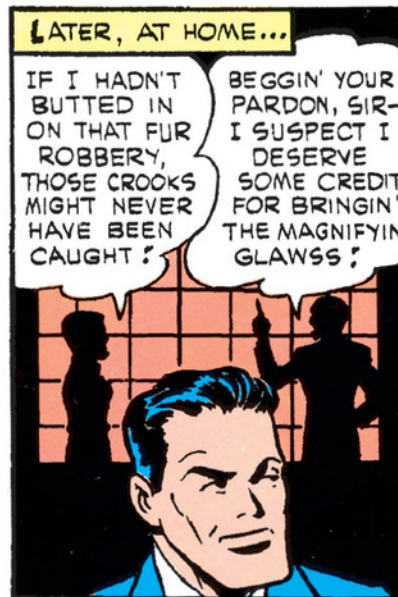
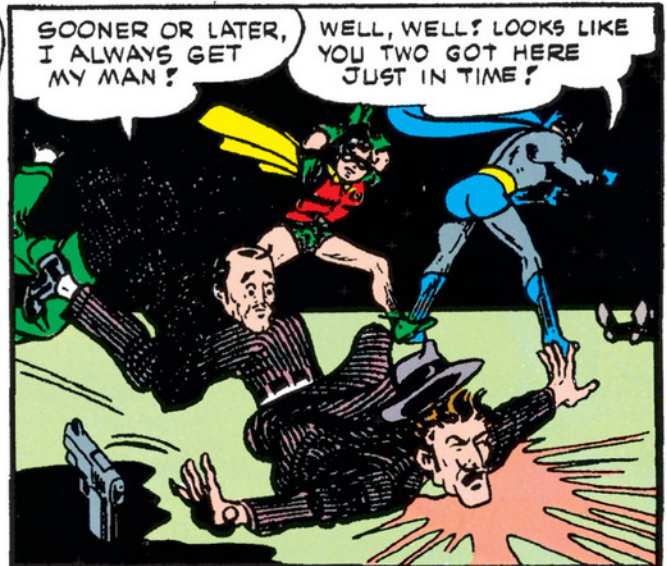
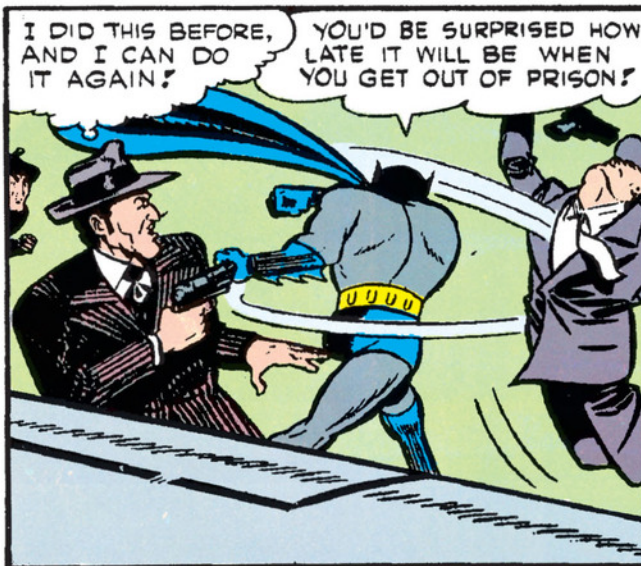
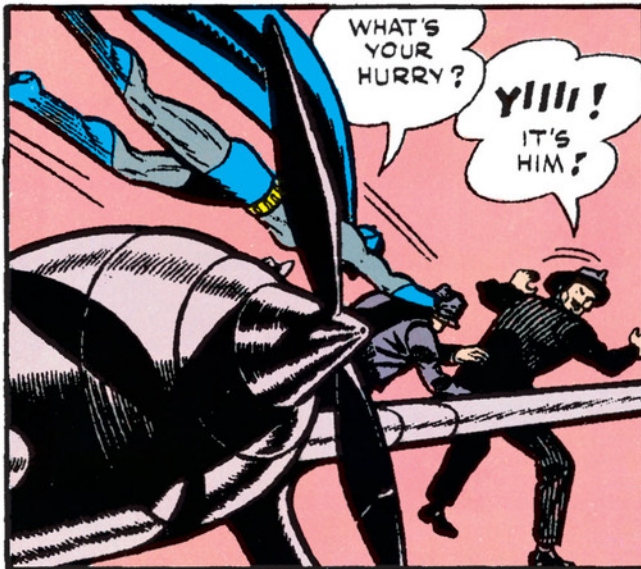


A NEAT LANDING I MADE, IF I DO SAY IT MYSELF!



MAKE IT SNAPPY! WE GOTTA EITHER FIX DIS PLANE OR STEAL ANOTHER BEFORE FOLKS START ASKIN' QUESTIONS!

TIME FOR A SMASH FINISH!





No. 87

ANOTHER THRILLING
PENGUIN
ACTION-ADVENTURE!



Detective

WILLIS W. & PAUL GUY

MAY

COMICS



BAT MAN

WITH

ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE AN ORDINARY UMBRELLA FOR KEEPING DRY IN AN ORDINARY SHOWER...

BUT WHEN THAT BOLD BIRD OF BANDITRY THE PENGUIN, UNLIMBERS HIS ARSENAL OF EXTRA-SUPER-SPECIAL UMBRELLAS--- THEN'S THE TIME TO LOOK OUT FOR SUCH A THUNDERSTORM OF VILLAINY AS ONLY THE RAZOR-EDGED WITS OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S SHREWDEST CRIMINALS CAN STIR UP!

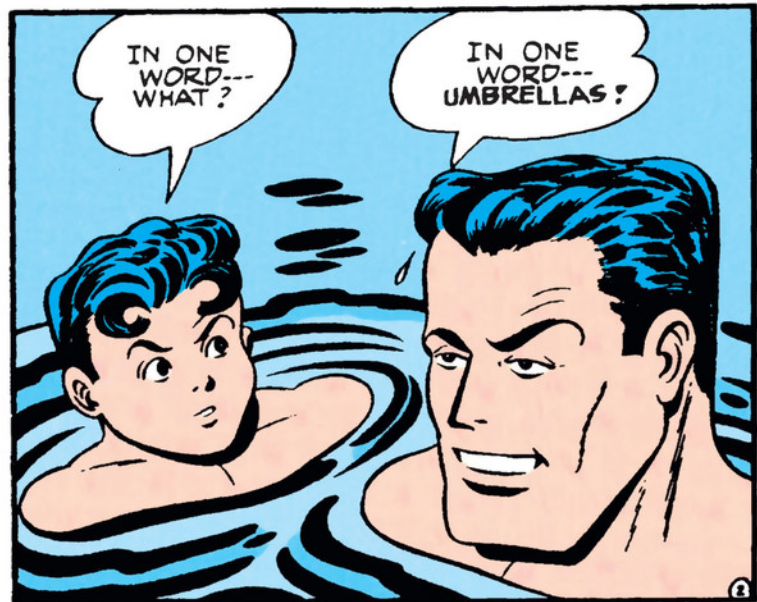
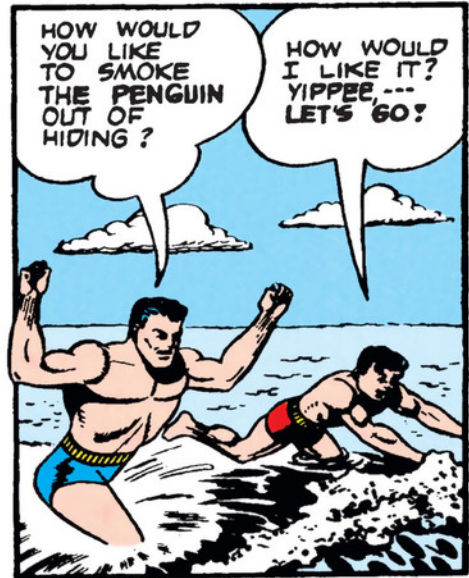
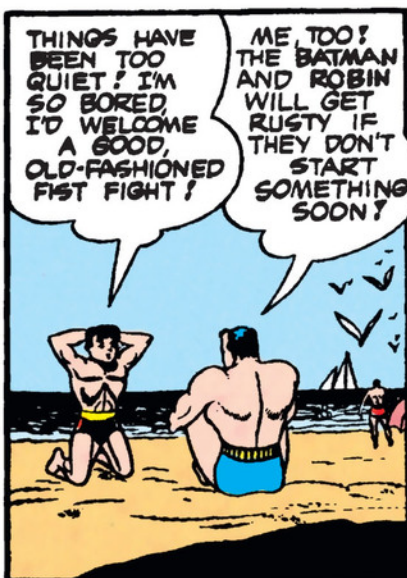
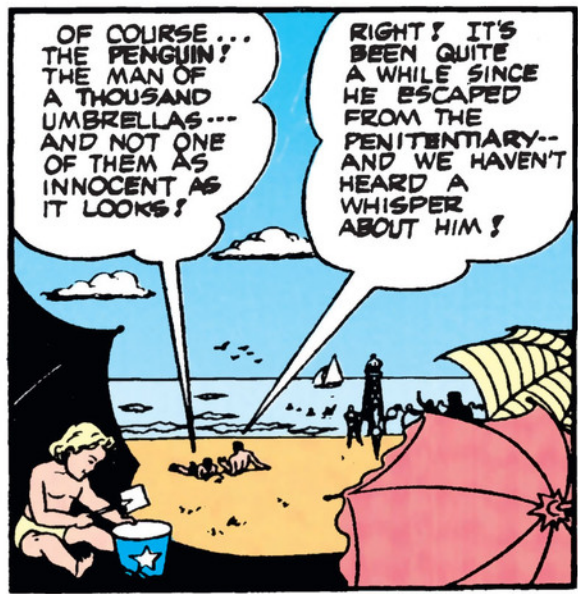
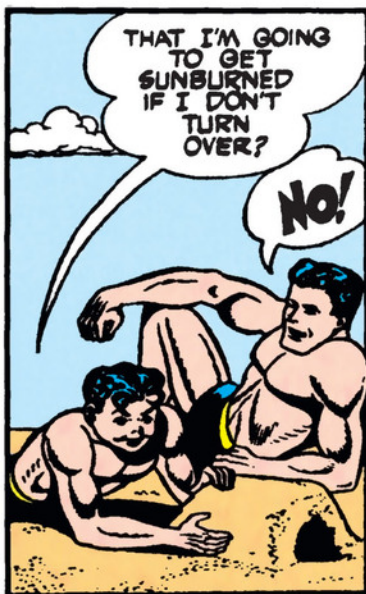
IT IS IN SUCH A DEADLY DOWNPOUR THAT THE MIGHTY BATMAN AND THE DAREDEVIL ROBIN ARE CAUGHT WHEN THEY SWING INTO DAZZLING ACTION ONCE MORE AGAINST AN OLD ENEMY, MATCHING TRICK FOR TRICK WITH---

"THE MAN OF A THOUSAND UMBRELLAS"

BRUCE WAYNE, SOCIETY PLAYBOY, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, FIGHT A LOSING BATTLE WITH BOREDOM AT THE BEACH...

HO, HUM? THREE GUESSES, DICK--- WHAT DO ALL THOSE UMBRELLAS REMIND ME OF?

LET ME SEE...
HO, HUM...



SO IT HAPPENS THAT, TWO DAYS LATER, A CREAKING, WHEEZING WAGON PREPARES TO TOUR THE STREETS OF GOTHAM CITY...



NOT EXACTLY HANDSOME--- BUT IT SAVES GAS AND TIRES!

AND THAT AIN'T HAY!

UM-BRELLAS MENDED! ANY UM-BRELLAS TODAY?

LOUDER!



I BENT THIS ONE OVER THE HEAD OF A BURGLAR--- CLIMBING THROUGH A WINDOW--- ONLY HE TURNED OUT TO BE MY HUSBAND!

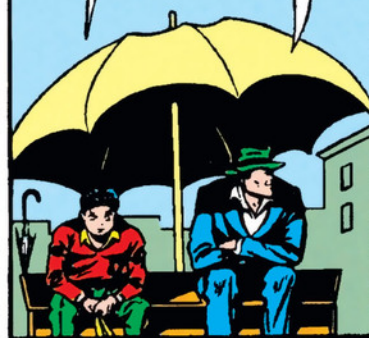
RECKON THE MOTHS MUSTA GOT INTO THIS!

YOU REALLY KNOW YOUR STUFF! WE COULD MAKE A GOOD LIVING AT THIS!

I CAN THINK OF WORSE WAYS!

WE'VE BEEN DRIVING ALL DAY--- AND NO PENGUIN!

IT'S A BIG CITY, DICK... BUT EVEN IF IT TAKES US WEEKS, IT'LL BE BETTER THAN LYING AROUND DOING NOTHING!



BUT THE PSEUDO-UMBRELLA-MENDERS ARE NEARER THE END OF THEIR SEARCH THAN THEY THINK--- FOR NOT FAR AHEAD OF THEM WADDLES A FAMILIAR FIGURE...

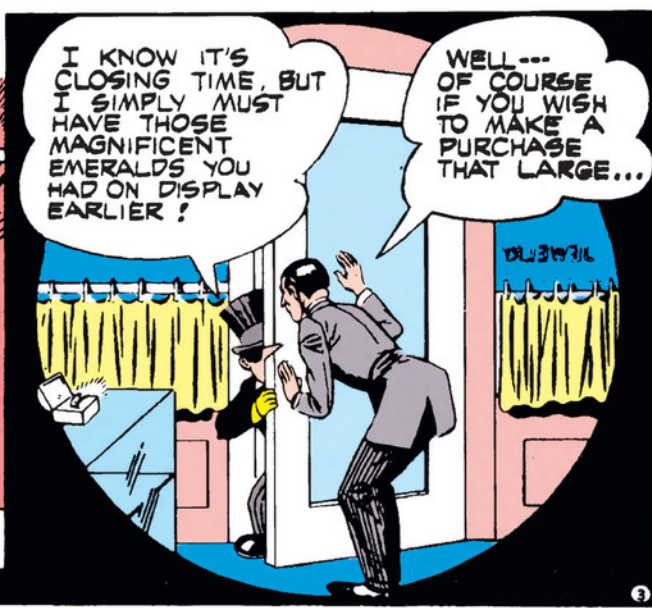
SMOKED GLASSES ARE ENOUGH OF A DISGUISE TO FOOL THE STUPID POLICE! HMMM... NEARLY TIME FOR SHOPS TO CLOSE!

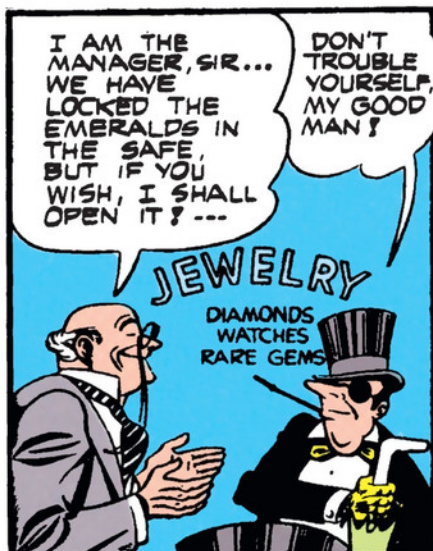


THE PENGUIN!

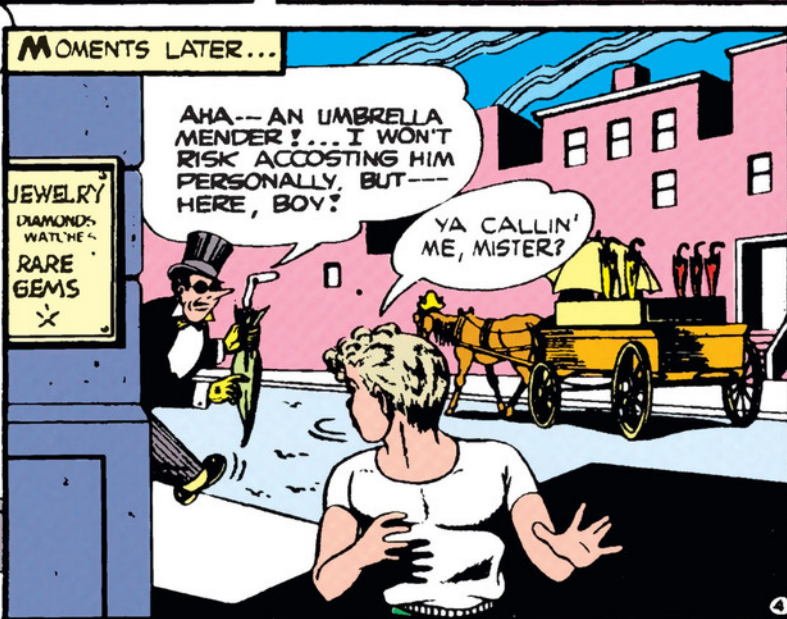
I KNOW IT'S CLOSING TIME, BUT I SIMPLY MUST HAVE THOSE MAGNIFICENT EMERALDS YOU HAD ON DISPLAY EARLIER!

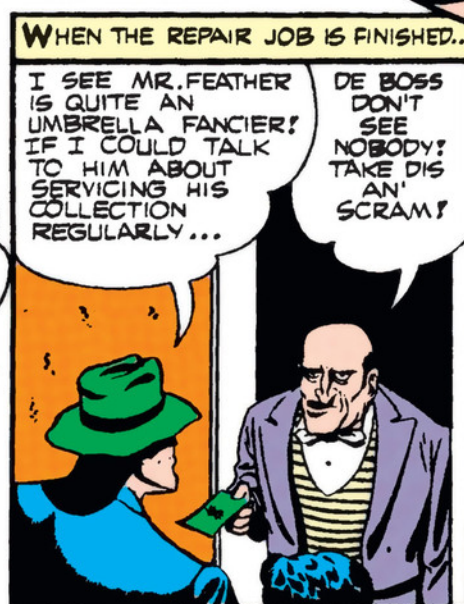
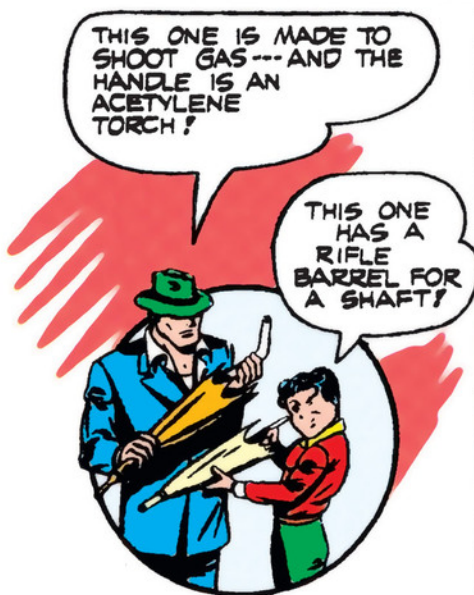
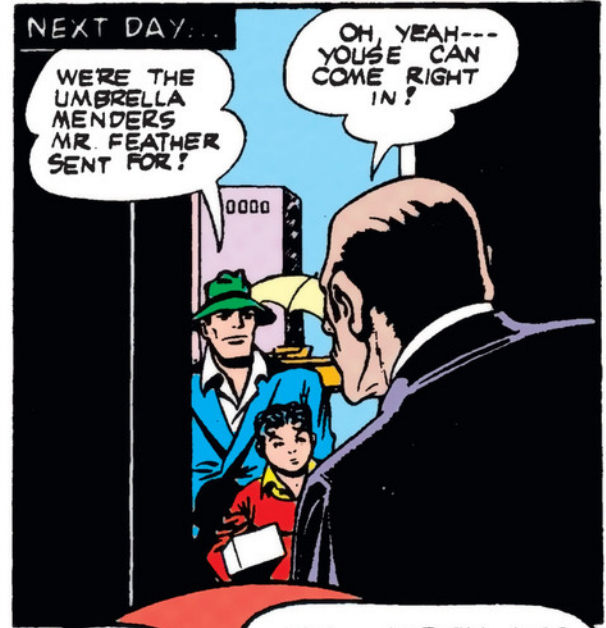
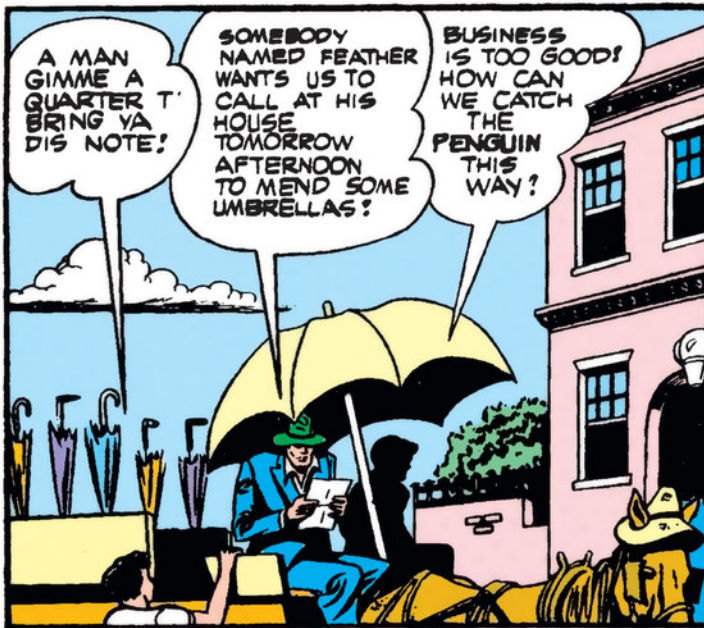
WELL--- OF COURSE IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A PURCHASE THAT LARGE...

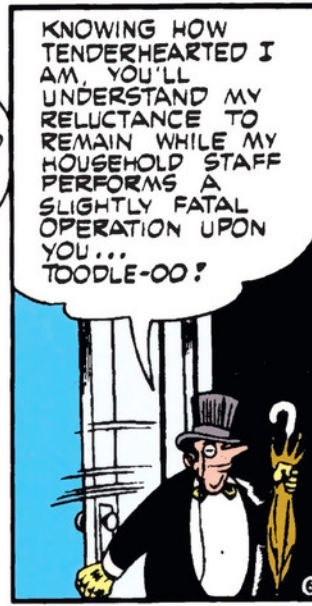
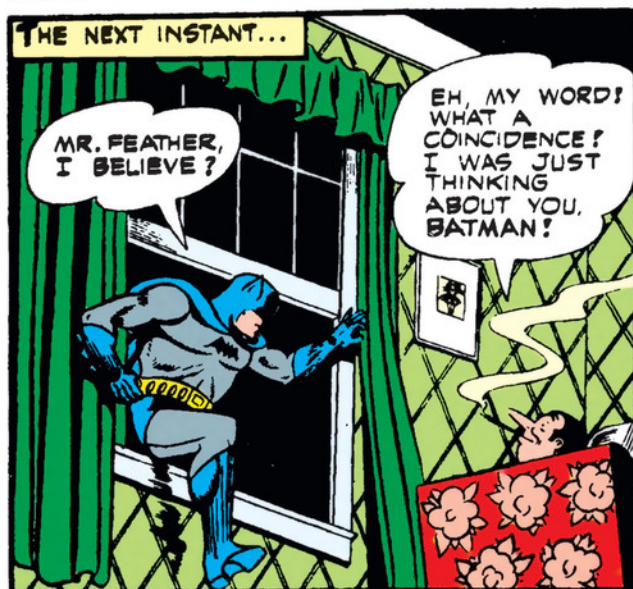
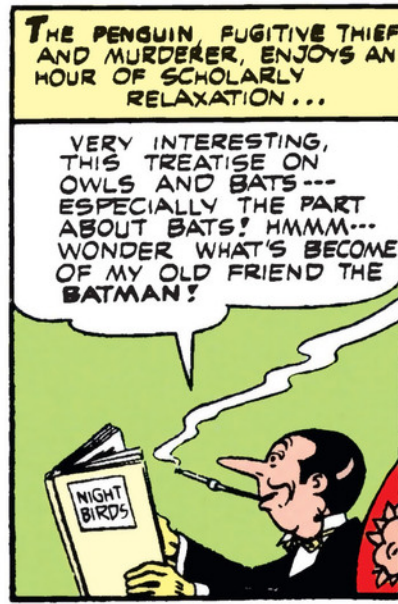


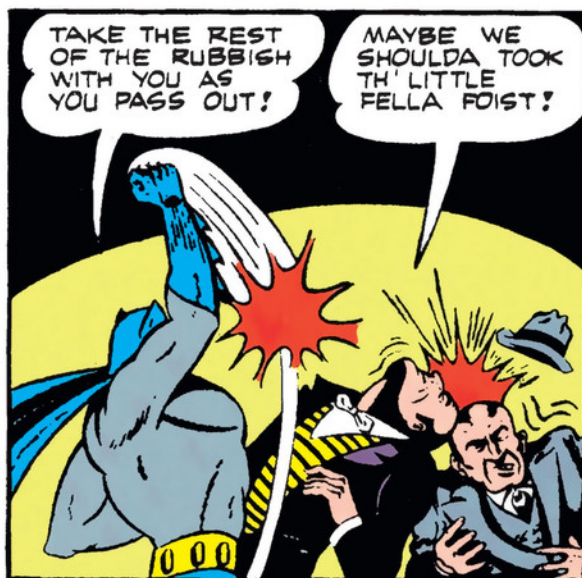
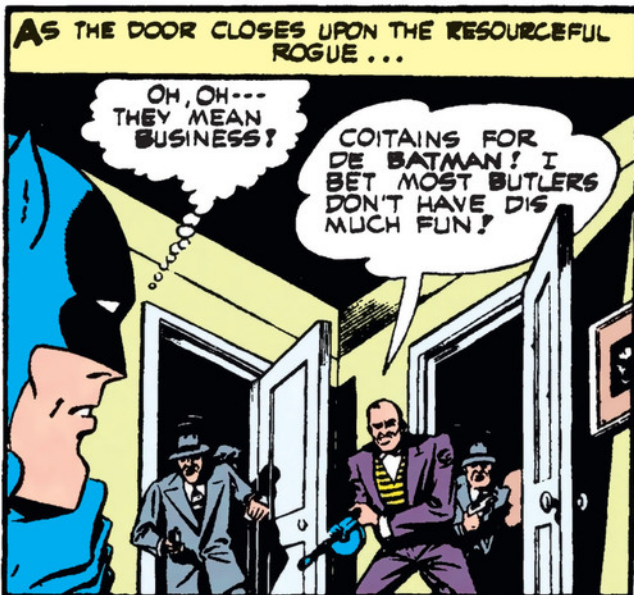


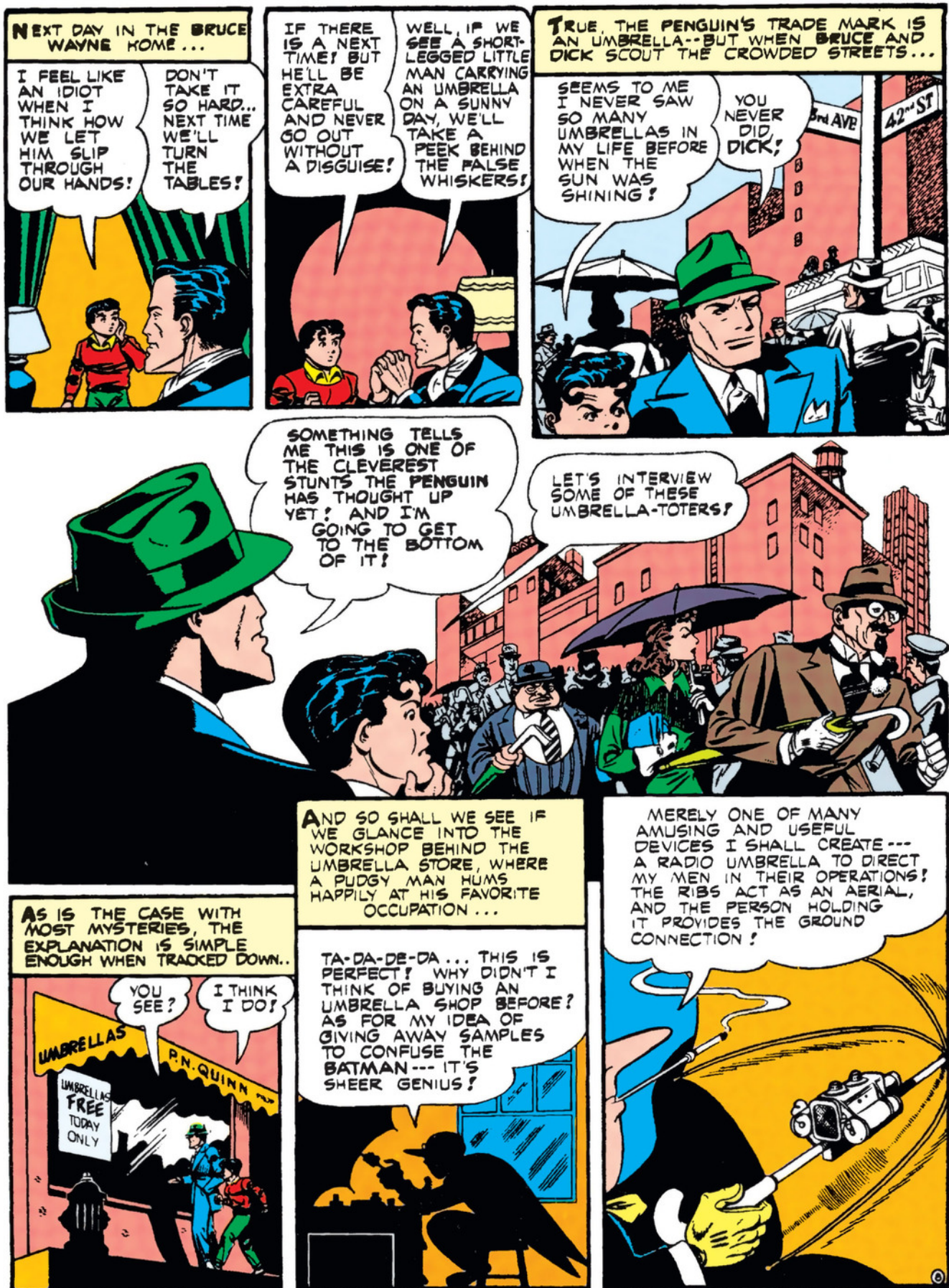
ONLY A SINGLE SEEMINGLY MILD MISHAP MARS THE PENGUIN'S PERFECT ROBBERY--- BUT IT IS ONE THAT IS DESTINED TO GIVE HIM MORE TROUBLE THAN HE DREAMS...











AS DARKNESS FALLS, A WEIRD VEHICLE GLIDES THROUGH THE QUIET STREETS...THE BATMOBILE!

THIS IS THE PLACE... ALL SET FOR SOME EXCITEMENT?

AND HOW!

A PERISCOPIC VISION DEVICE WARNS THE PENGUIN...

SO HE SAW THROUGH MY SCHEME OF GIVING AWAY UMBRELLAS! PERHAPS IT'S JUST AS WELL!

YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AT PICKING THAT LOCK!

A MAN CAN'T CATCH CROOKS UNTIL HE HAS LEARNED ALL THEIR TRICKS!

THE BIRD HAS FLOWN?

I DOUBT IT... THE DOOR IN THE BACK IS OPENING!..

THERE'S NO HIDING FROM YOU GENTLEMEN, IS THERE? STEP RIGHT INTO MY PARLOR!

KEEP YOUR HANDS AT YOUR SIDES AND DON'T REACH FOR ANY OF YOUR INFERNAL UMBRELLAS, PENGUIN!

I PROMISE NOT TO LIFT A FINGER TO TRAP YOU! BUT IF YOU SHOULD BE SO UNFORTUNATE AS TO STEP ON A HIDDEN BUTTON...

BATMAN--- LOOK OUT!

YOU SEE, YOU DID IT YOURSELVES! ONLY A BATMAN IN A GILDED CAGE!

THESE CAGES WON'T HOLD US LONG!



BECAUSE OF YOU, THEY WERE GOING TO KEEP ME IN JAIL FOR A LONG WHILE! NOW I AM ABOUT TO ENJOY THE EXQUISITE PLEASURE OF PUTTING YOU AWAY -- FOR GOOD!

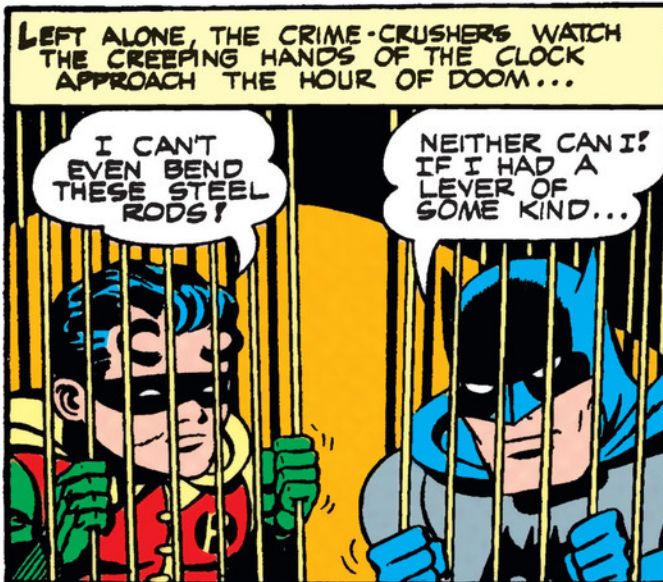
DON'T DO ANYTHING YOU'LL BE SORRY FOR!



HIGH-VOLTAGE WIRES ARE HOOKED TO THOSE UMBRELLA STAYS THAT IMPRISON YOU, AND THERE IS A SWITCH INSIDE THE CLOCK! AT MIDNIGHT--- IN EXACTLY TEN MINUTES-- A LETHAL CURRENT WILL DISPOSE OF YOU!



I MUST LEAVE TO TEST A NEW UMBRELLA I HAVE INVENTED--- BUT I'LL RETURN TO DISPOSE OF YOUR BODIES!



LEFT ALONE, THE CRIME-CRUSHERS WATCH THE CREEPING HANDS OF THE CLOCK APPROACH THE HOUR OF DOOM...

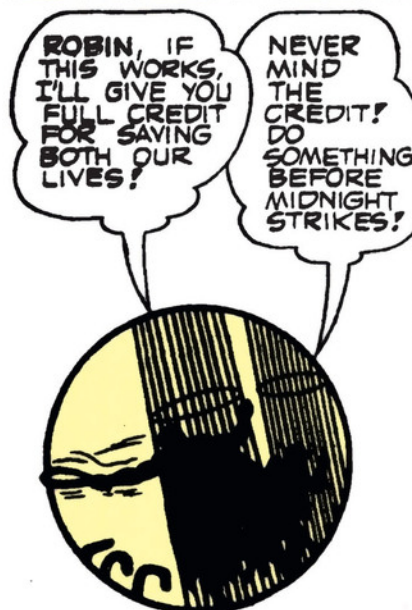
I CAN'T EVEN BEND THESE STEEL RODS!

NEITHER CAN I! IF I HAD A LEVER OF SOME KIND...



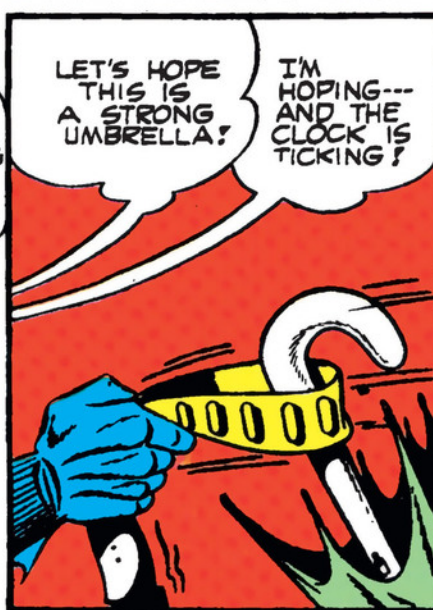
IF I COULD ONLY REACH ONE OF THOSE UMBRELLAS ...

YOUR BELT, BATMAN!



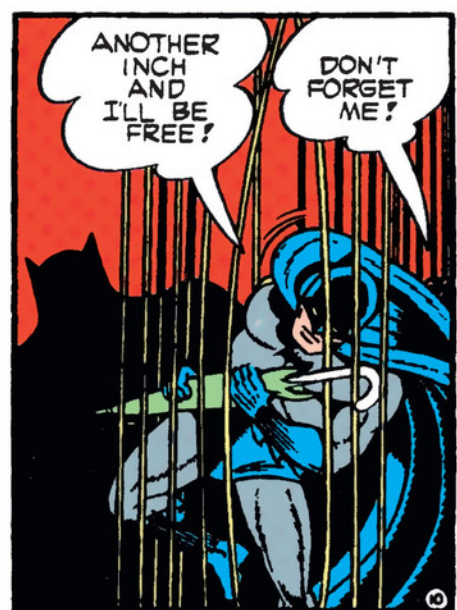
ROBIN, IF THIS WORKS, I'LL GIVE YOU FULL CREDIT FOR SAVING BOTH OUR LIVES!

NEVER MIND THE CREDIT! DO SOMETHING BEFORE MIDNIGHT STRIKES!



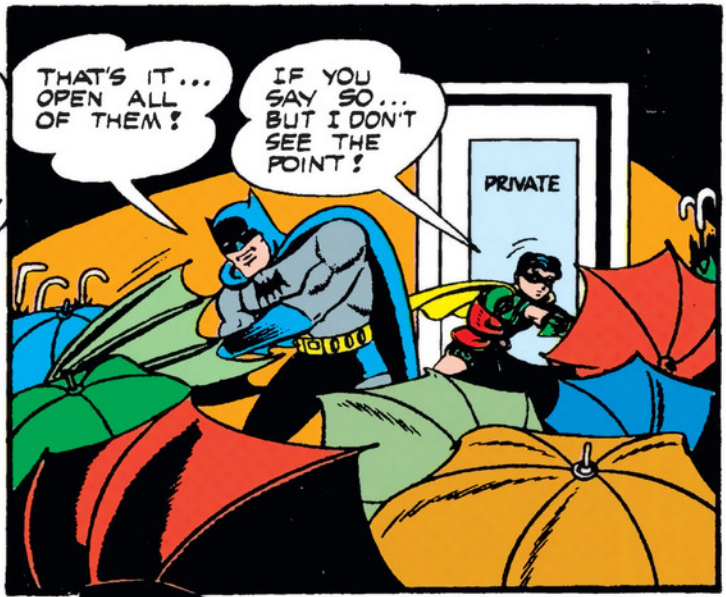
LET'S HOPE THIS IS A STRONG UMBRELLA!

I'M HOPING--- AND THE CLOCK IS TICKING!

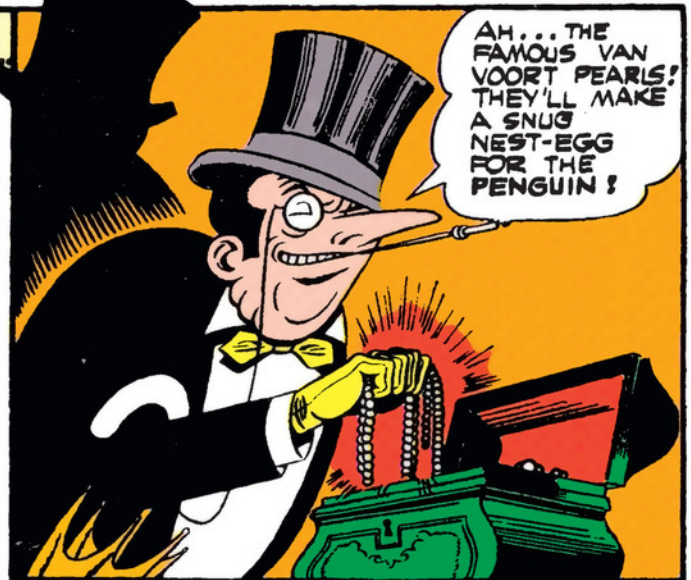
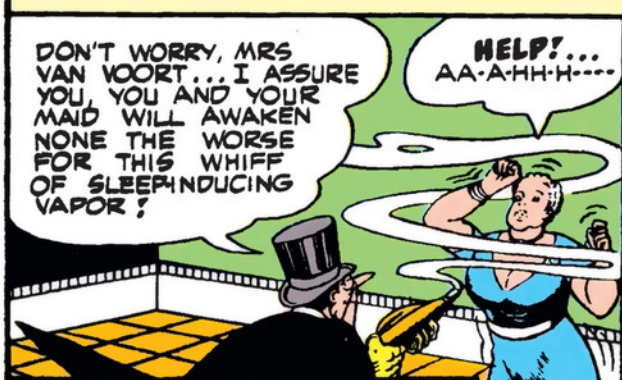


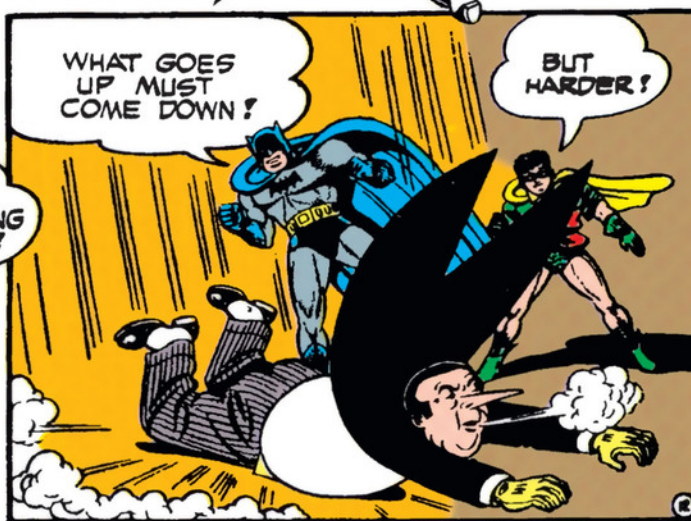
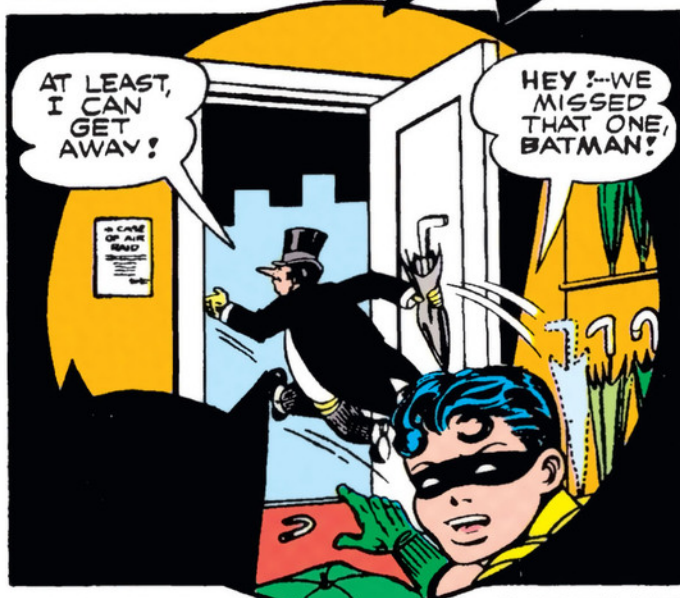
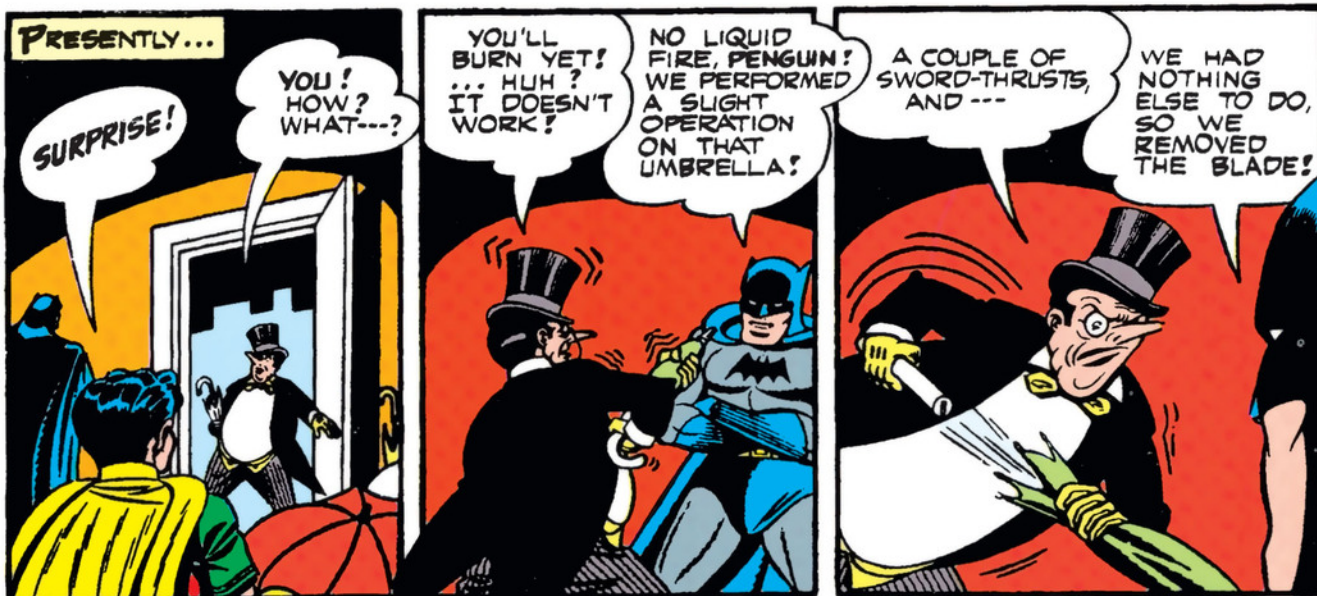
ANOTHER INCH AND I'LL BE FREE!

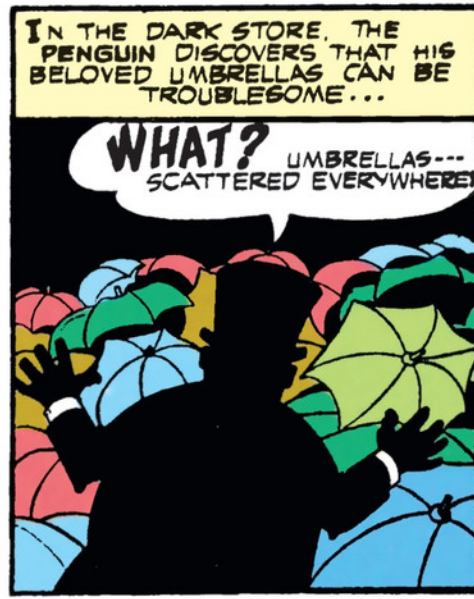
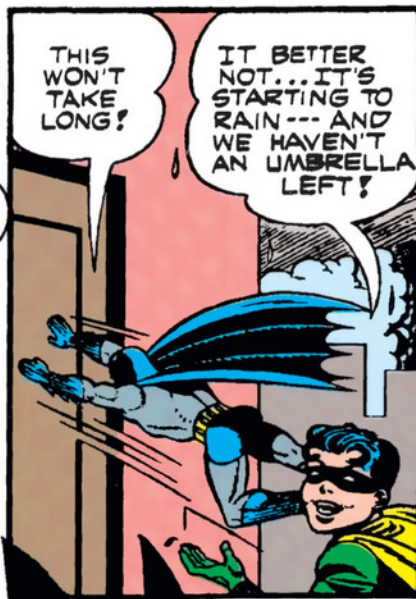
DON'T FORGET ME!



MEANWHILE THE PENGUIN IS MAKING A BUSINESS CALL AT A LUXURIOUS PENTHOUSE...





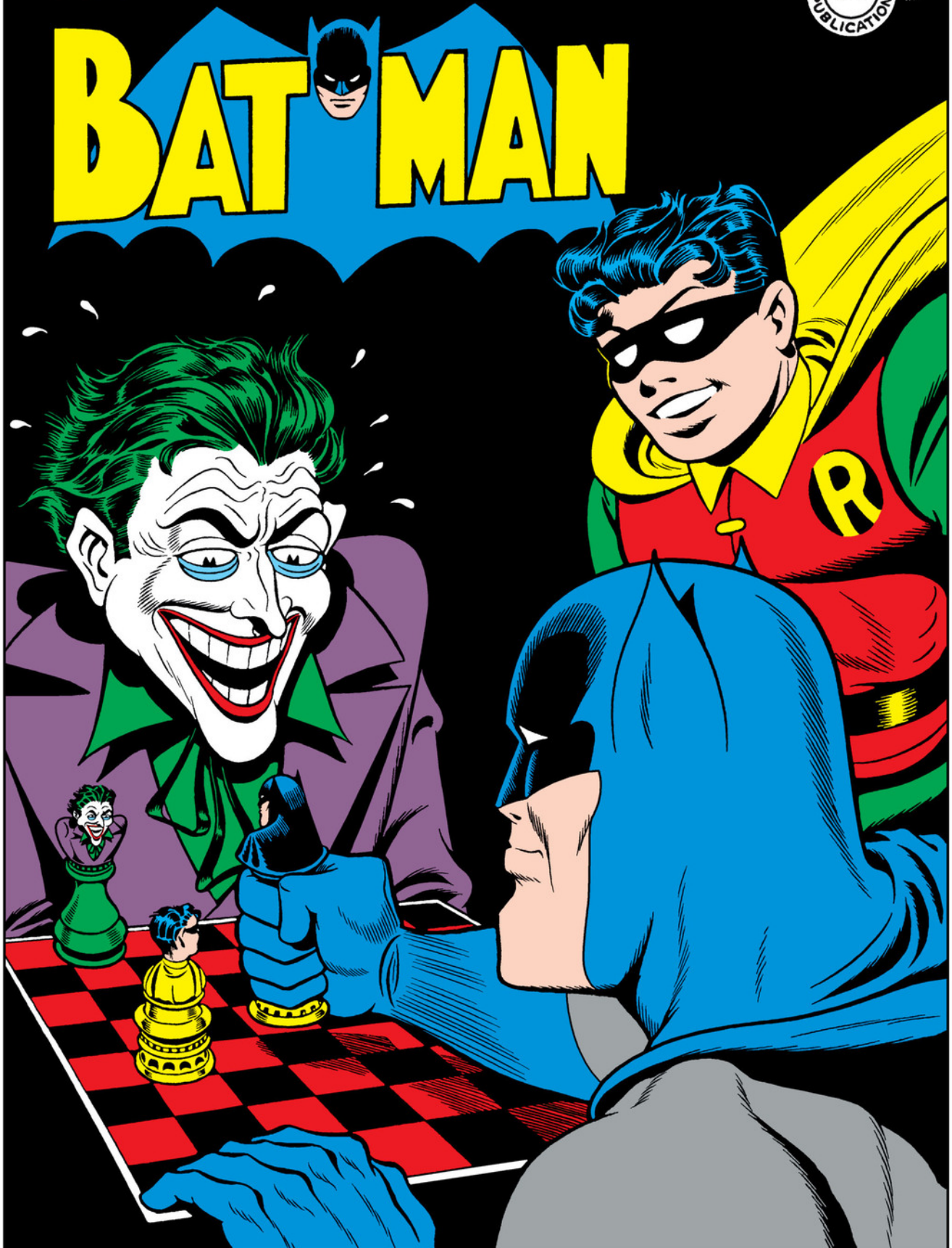


BATMAN
No.23

JUNE...JULY



BATMAN



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

-THE BOY WONDER-

BY **BOB KANE**



A WORLD GONE MAD! A CITY TURNED UPSIDE-DOWN TO SPILL ITS WEALTH INTO THE LAP OF THAT DEVILISH DEALER IN DEADLY JESTS—**THE JOKER!** **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER, MATCH THEIR KEEN WITS AND STEEL-TAUT MUSCLES AGAINST THE DIABOLICAL TOMFOOLERY OF THE FEARSOME FAKIR IN A MAD, BRAIN-REELING ADVENTURE STAGED IN A SETTING THAT DEFIES THE LAWS OF GRAVITY! HERE IT IS—THE STRANGE TALE OF HOW **BATMAN** BATTLES AGAINST EVIL IN A CITY TURNED TOPSY-TURVY BY THE—

THE JOKER!

DOWN THE AVENUE OF MIRTH STROLLS THAT MAD MASTER OF MIRTH ---THE JOKER!

HERE Y'ARE, FOLKS! STEP INSIDE AND FORGET YOUR CARES! IT'S ALWAYS FUN TO BE FOOLED...

FUN ?? FOOLED?? THAT GUYS STEALING MY LINE! HA! HA! LET'S SEE IF HE CAN MAKE ME LAUGH!



INTO THE MIRTH HOUSE WALKS
THE FABULOUS FUNSTER...



HA! HA!
MIGHTY
FUNNY!
HA! HA!



OOOPS!
WATCH OUT
BELOW! I'M
SLIDING TO
HOME BASE!
HA! HA!



LOOKS LIKE THE
BARREL'S ROLLING
ME OUT! HA! HA!

STAGGERING DIZZILY OUT OF
THE ROTATING "BARREL OF FUN",
THE JOKER FINDS HIMSELF
IN A WEIRD NEW WORLD...



WOW!
WHAT'S HAPPENED?
I'M SEEING UPSIDE-
DOWN!

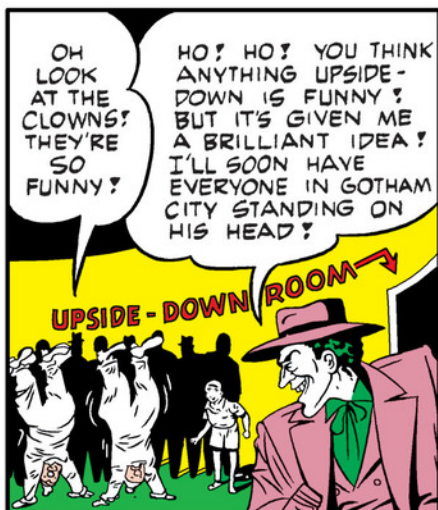
REGAINING HIS MENTAL
BALANCE, THE LAUGHING
LAWBREAKER REALIZES
THAT HE IS IN THE MOST
BIZARRE OF ALL FUN
SPOTS --- THE UPSIDE-DOWN
ROOM!



HA! HA! THAT JOKE
NEARLY STOOD ME
ON MY EAR! NOT BAD
FOR AMATEURS!

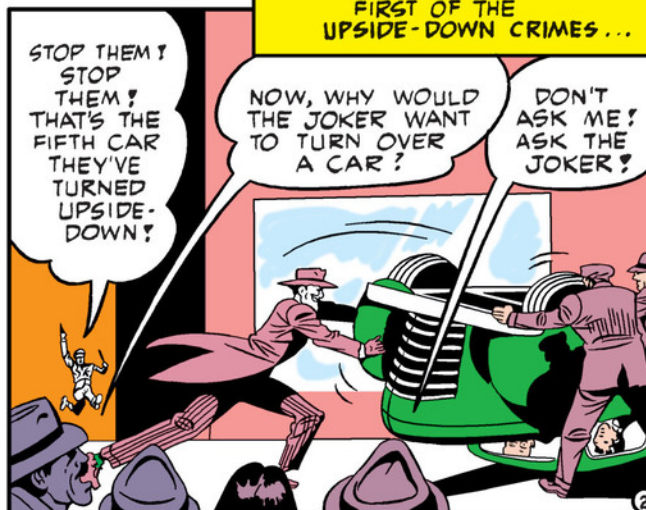
AND THE NEXT DAY, GOTHAM
CITY VIEWS THE
FIRST OF THE
UPSIDE-DOWN CRIMES...

ALREADY
THE
EVIL
BRAIN
OF
THE
CRIME
CLOWN
IS
HATCHING
NEW
PLOTS
INSPIRED
BY HIS
UPSIDE-
DOWN
ADVENTURE..



OH
LOOK
AT THE
CLOWNS!
THEY'RE
SO
FUNNY!

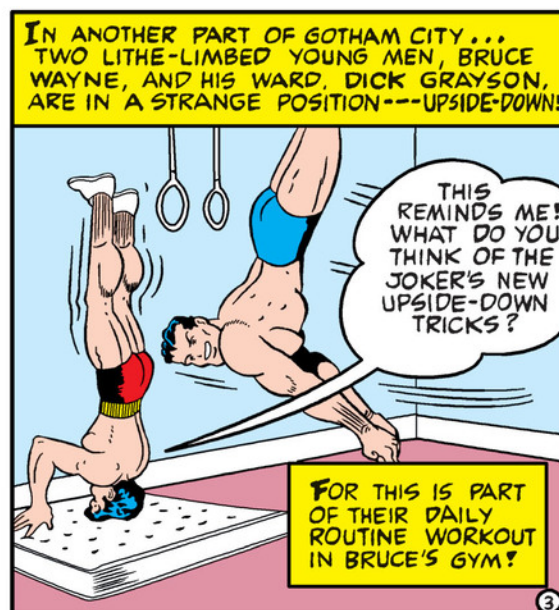
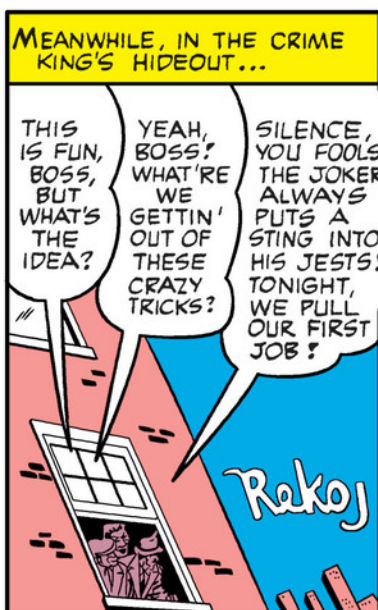
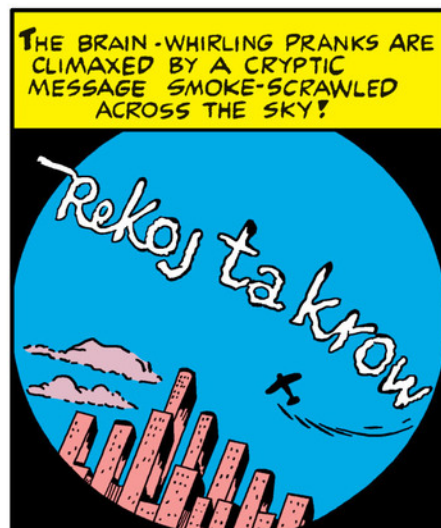
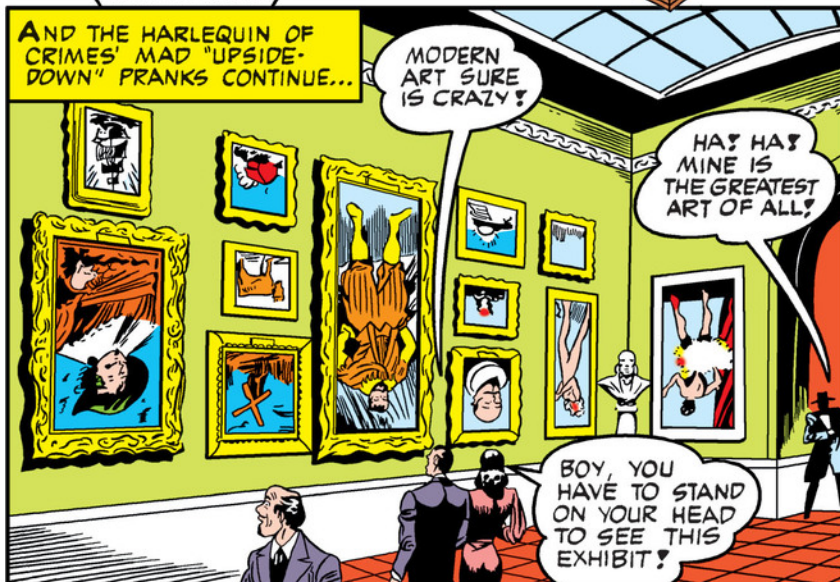
HO! HO! YOU THINK
ANYTHING UPSIDE-
DOWN IS FUNNY?
BUT IT'S GIVEN ME
A BRILLIANT IDEA!
I'LL SOON HAVE
EVERYONE IN GOTHAM
CITY STANDING ON
HIS HEAD!

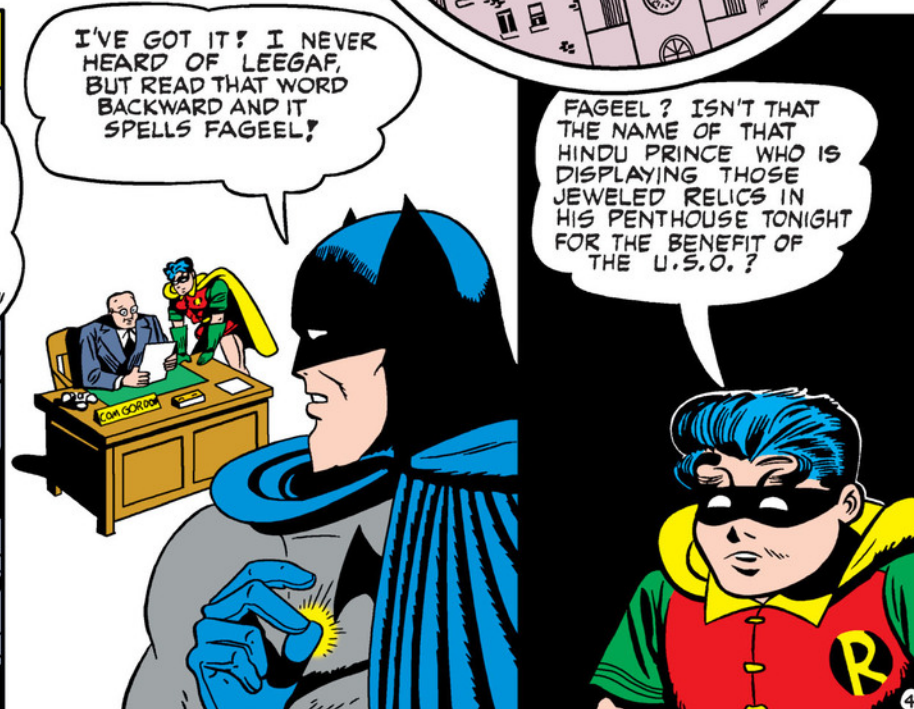
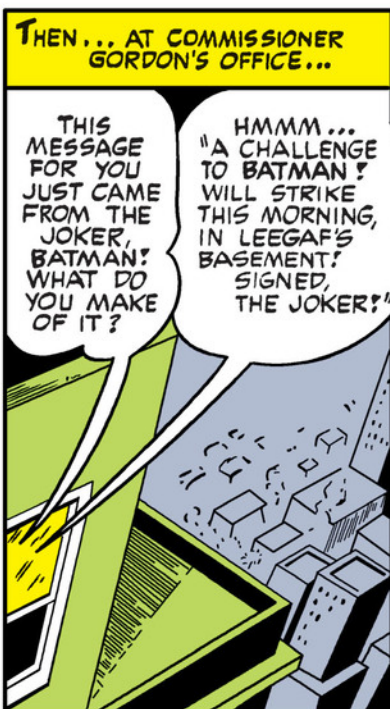
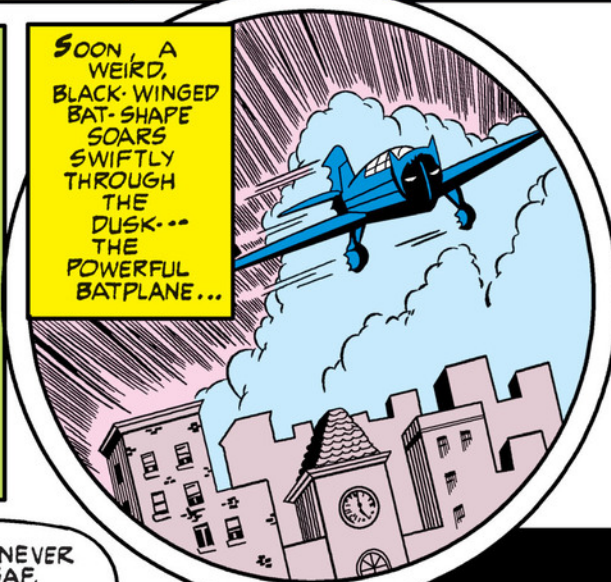
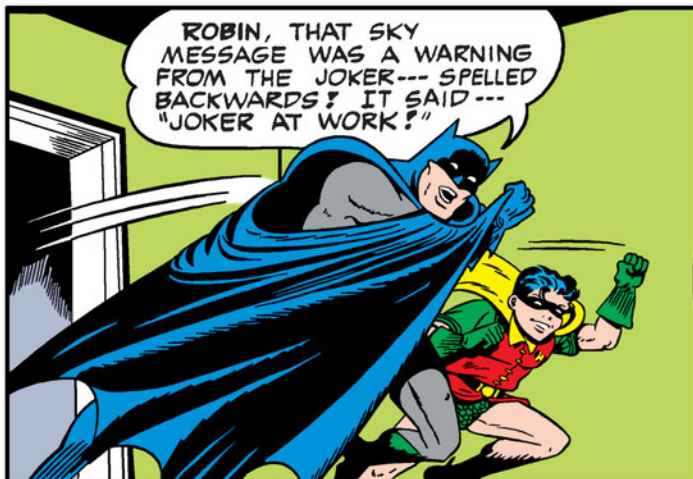
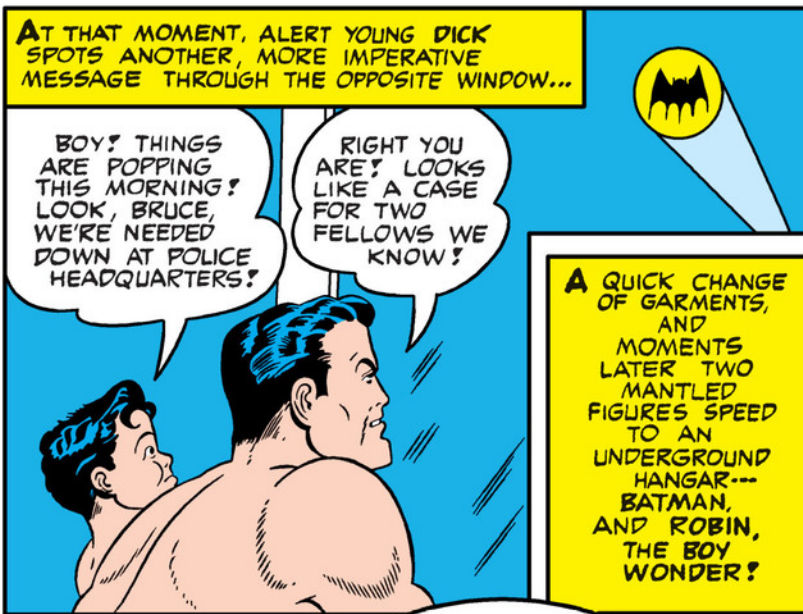
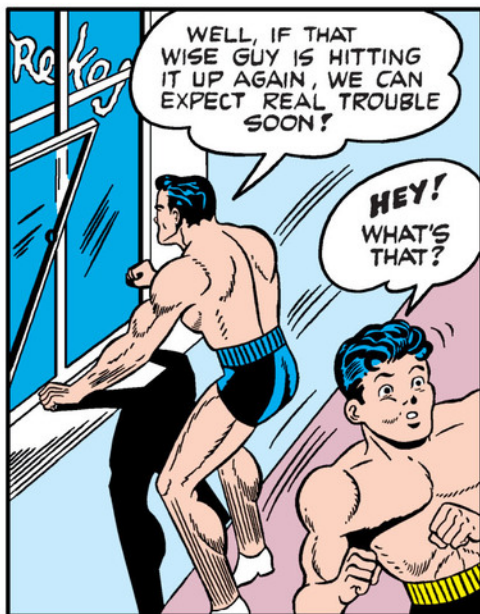


STOP THEM!
STOP
THEM!
THAT'S THE
FIFTH CAR
THEY'VE
TURNED
UPSIDE-
DOWN!

NOW, WHY WOULD
THE JOKER WANT
TO TURN OVER
A CAR?

DON'T
ASK ME!
ASK THE
JOKER!





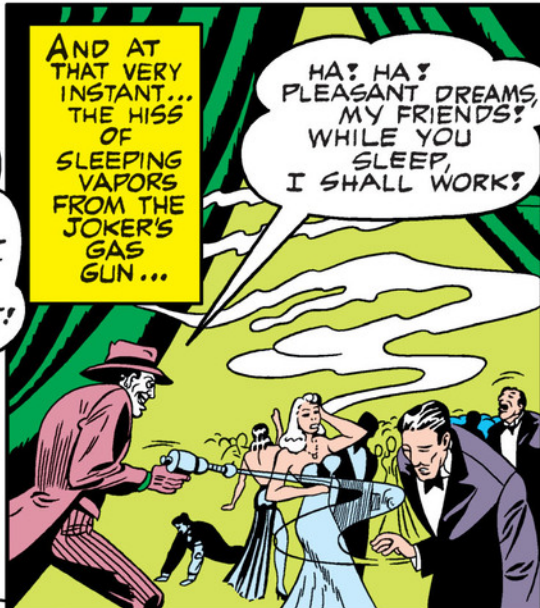
CLOAKS UNFURLED BEHIND THEM, THE DYNAMIC DUO STREAKS TOWARD THEIR PLANE ..

RIGHT, ROBIN! AND SINCE THE JOKER'S DOING EVERYTHING UPSIDE-DOWN, HIS MESSAGE MEANS NIGHT INSTEAD OF MORNING, AND PENTHOUSE INSTEAD OF BASEMENT! COME ON --- WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!



AND AT THAT VERY INSTANT... THE HISS OF SLEEPING VAPORS FROM THE JOKER'S GAS GUN...

HA! HA! PLEASANT DREAMS, MY FRIENDS! WHILE YOU SLEEP, I SHALL WORK!



AND SWIFTLY, QUIETLY, HE WORKS WITHIN THE SILENCED ROOM...

THIS IS FUN, BOSS! BUT I STILL DON'T GET IT!

HA! HA! YOU'LL GET PLENTY VERY SOON!



WHAT'S THIS? A PRICELESS GEM EMBEDDED IN THE BASE OF EACH SAUCER?

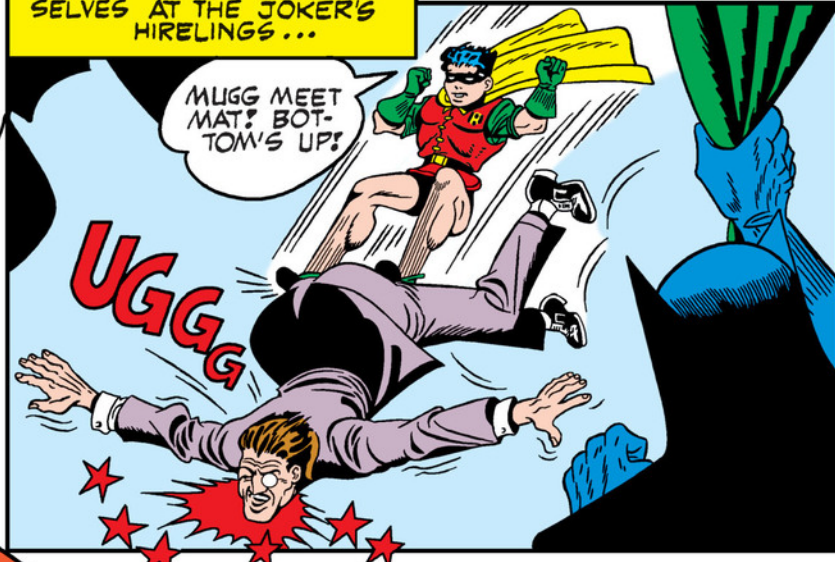
NOW TO REPLACE THE GEMS WITH MY GLASS SUBSTITUTES! THE FOOLS WILL THINK THIS WAS JUST ANOTHER UPSIDE-DOWN PRANK! HA! HA! HERE COMES BATMAN --- JUST A LITTLE TOO LATE!



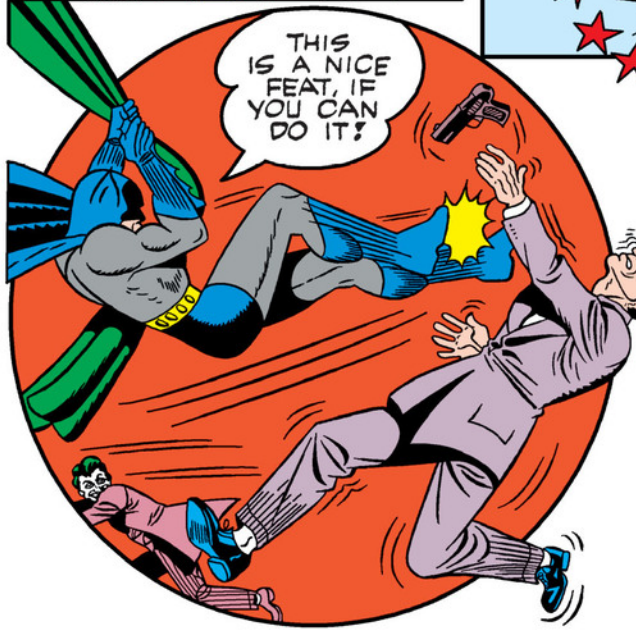
LIKE STREAKING METEORS, THE CLOAKED DEFENDERS OF JUSTICE HURL THEMSELVES AT THE JOKER'S HIRELINGS...

MUGG MEET MAT! BOT-TOM'S UP!

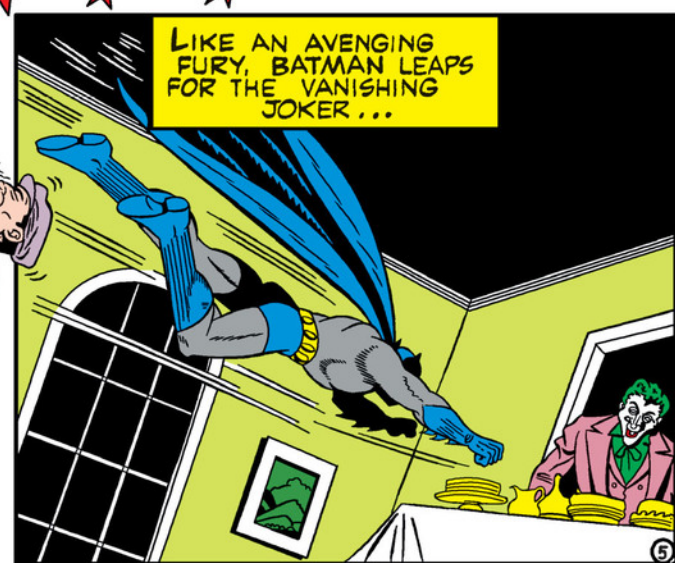
UGGG

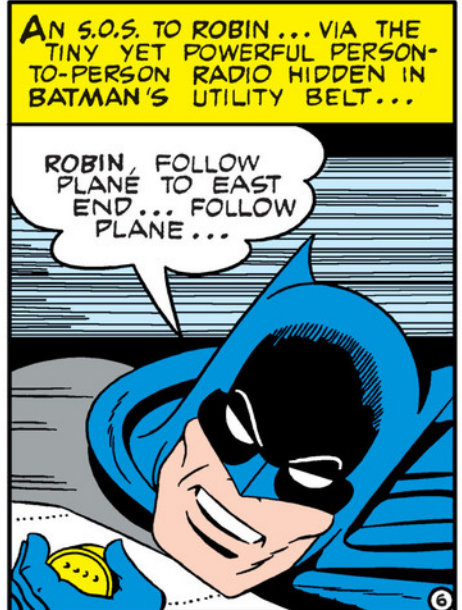
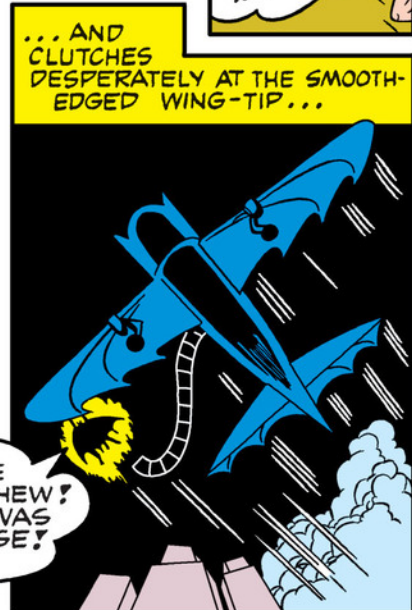
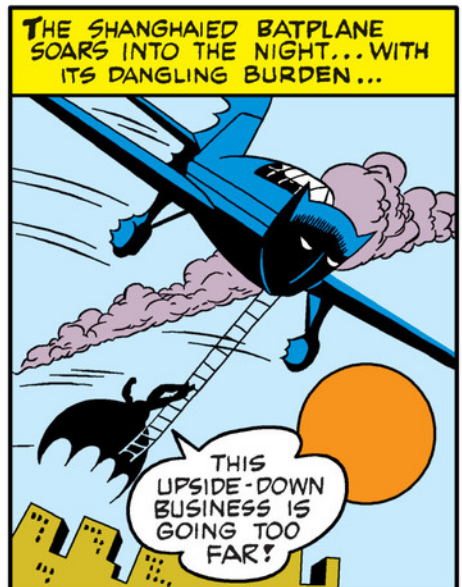
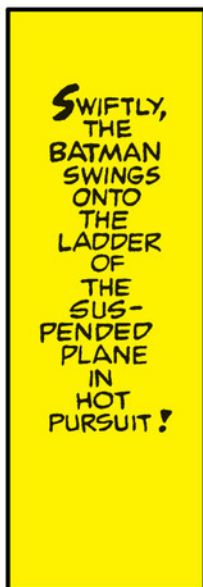
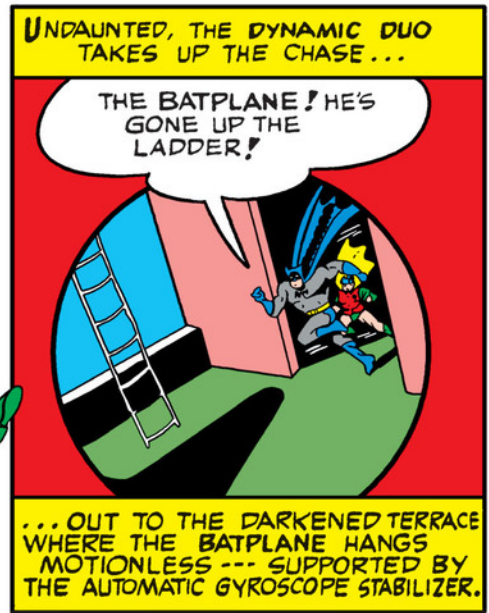


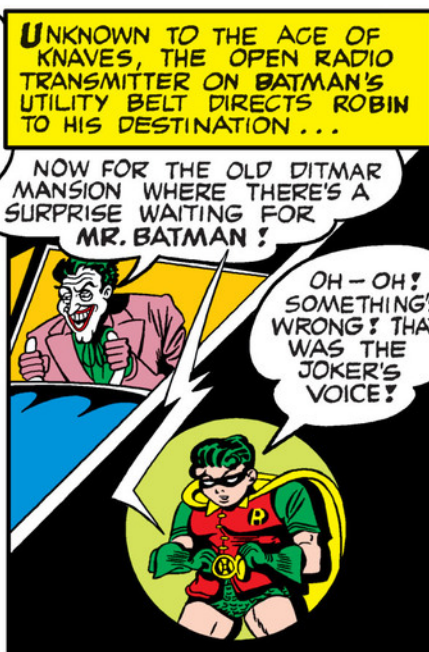
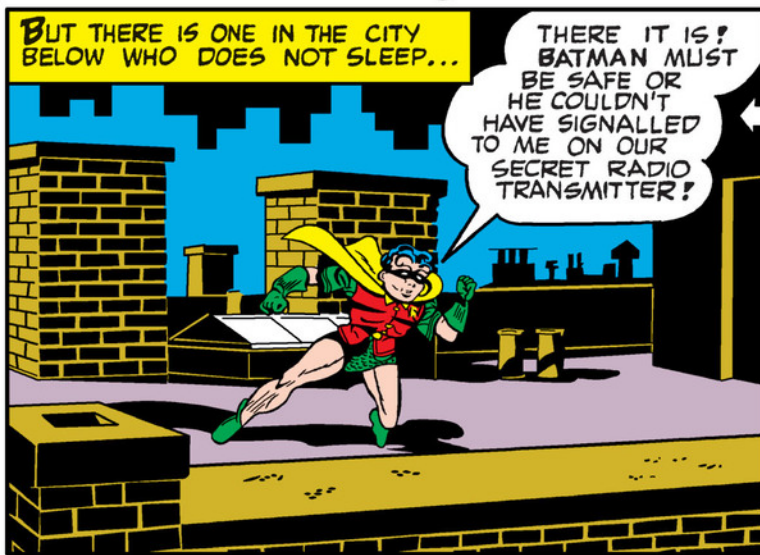
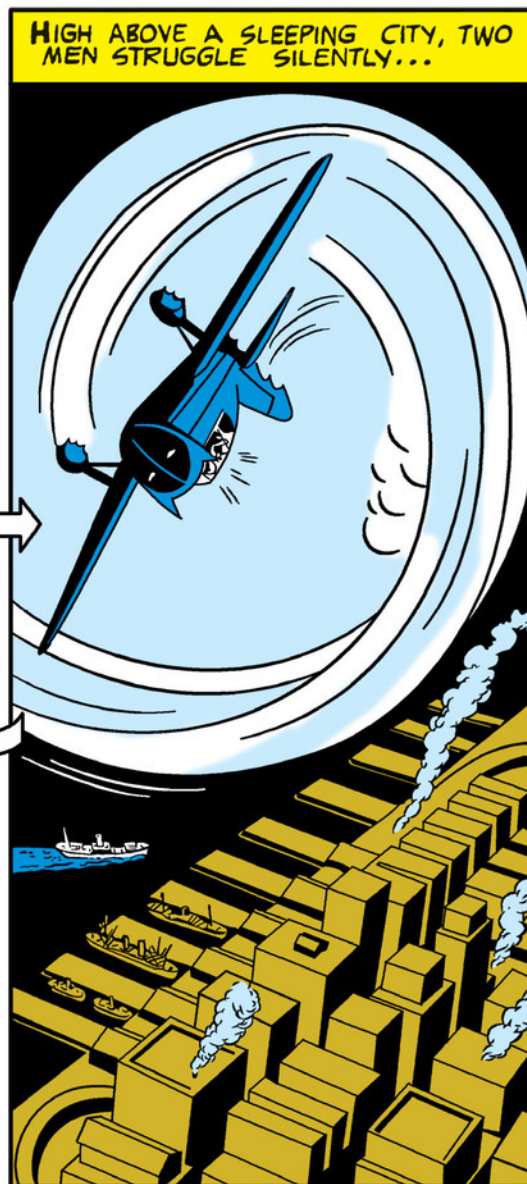
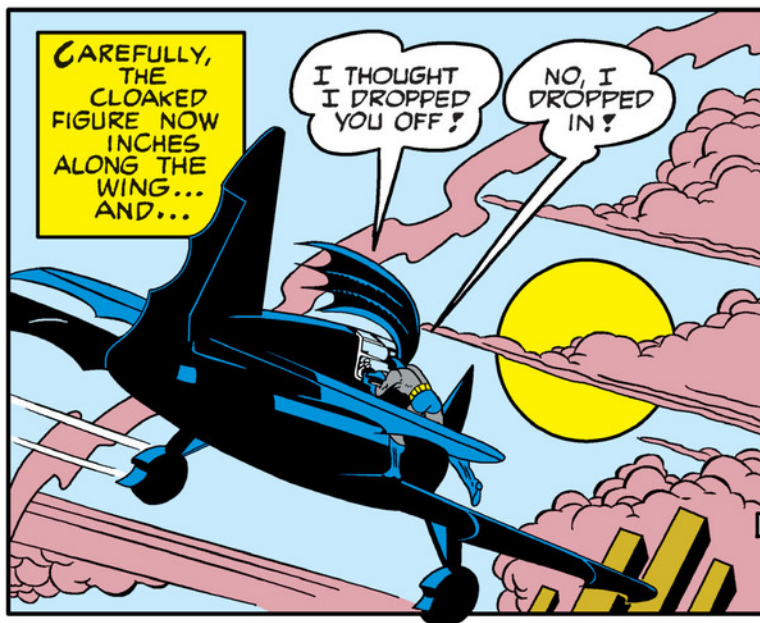
THIS IS A NICE FEAT, IF YOU CAN DO IT!

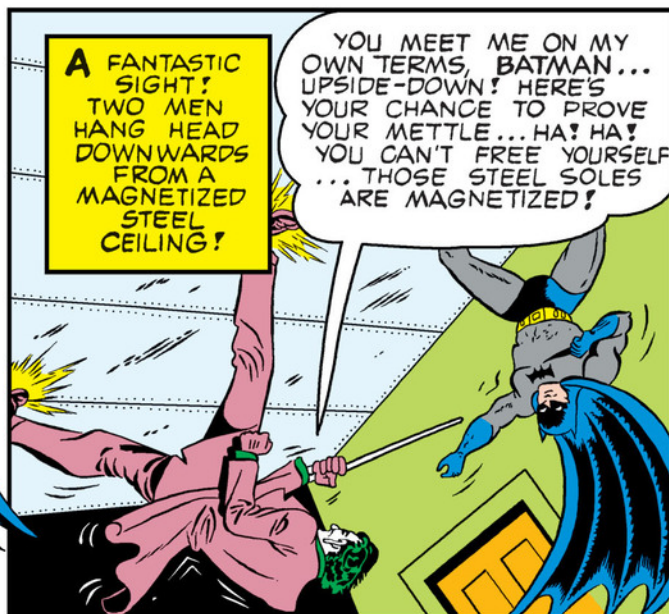
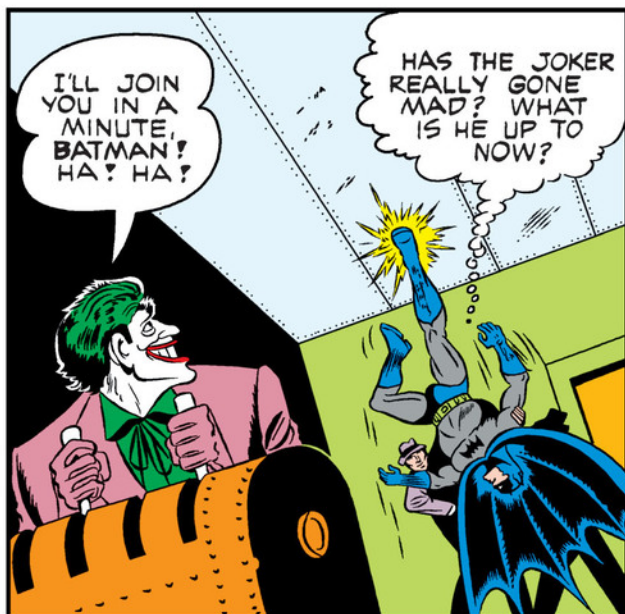


LIKE AN AVENGING FURY, BATMAN LEAPS FOR THE VANISHING JOKER...









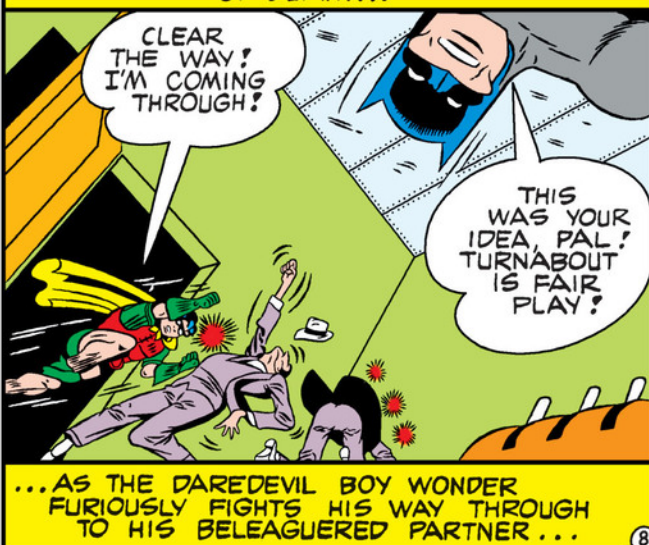
THIS STARTS THE ODDEST BATTLE IN HISTORY... JUSTICE AGAINST EVIL... KEEN WITS AGAINST TRICKERY... WHILE TWO MEN HANG SUSPENDED...

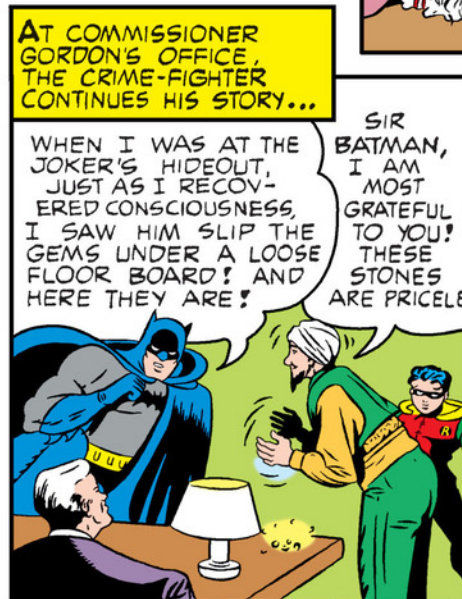
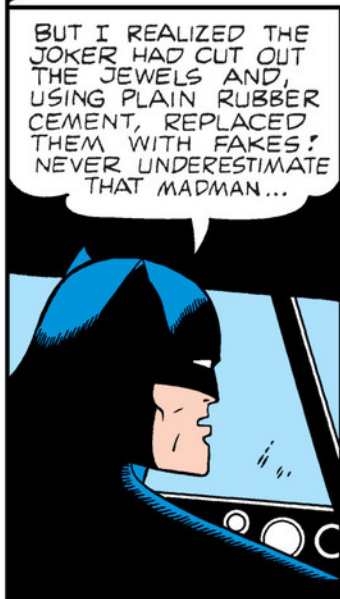
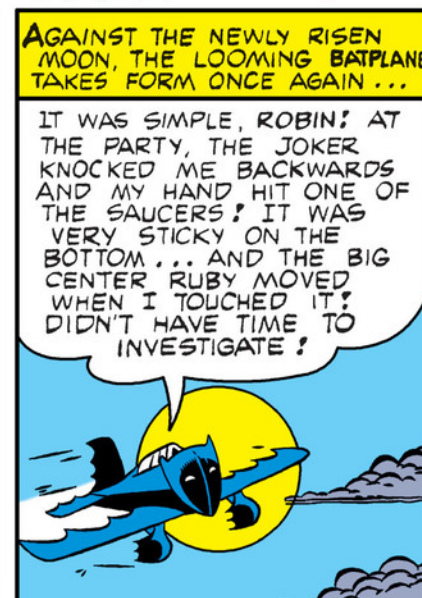
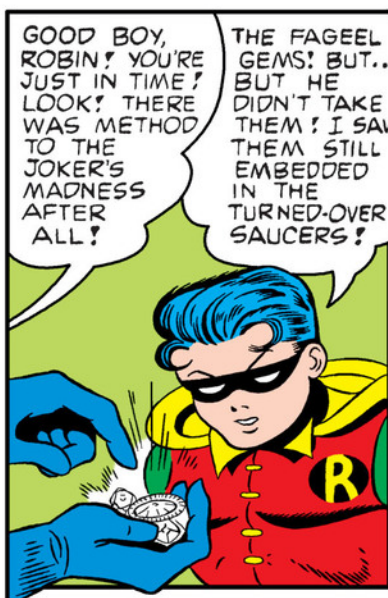
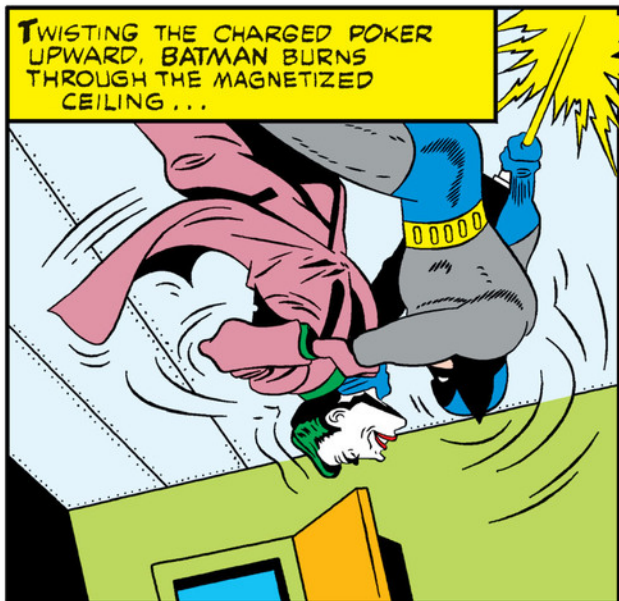


DESPERATELY, BATMAN SWINGS FORWARD...



TWO BODIES SWAY MADLY IN A DIZZY DANCE OF DEATH...





DAYS PASS... THEN ONCE AGAIN... A CRYPTIC MESSAGE FROM THE MAD MERRYMAKER!

FATE LURKS WHERE THE STARS ARE FALSE AND THE SANDS OF TIME RUN UPSIDE-DOWN!

BOY! THE JOKER IS GETTING POETIC! DO YOU THINK HE'S PLANNING TO PULL A JOB AT THE BEACH CLUB?

NOPE! IT WON'T BE AS SIMPLE AS ALL THAT!

TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT, FOLKS! DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE STAR AND COME TO THE HOUR GLASS NITE CLUB'S ANNUAL BALL!

HOUR GLASS CLUB... MOVIE STAR BALL...

...I'VE GOT IT! TIME FOR DESSERT LATER, ROBIN, WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE!

AW, GEE! IT'S STRAWBERRY, TOO! WAIT'LL I GET THAT JOKER... SPOILING MY DESSERT!

ONCE MORE, LIKE SILENT SHADOWS OF THE NIGHT, BATMAN AND ROBIN RACE SWIFTLY THROUGH THE DARKENED CITY STREETS...

SAY - WHAT'S THE HURRY? AND, INCIDENTALLY, WHERE ARE WE GOING?

WE'RE GOING TO THE HOUR GLASS NITE CLUB "SANDS OF TIME RUN UPSIDE-DOWN" MEANT AN HOUR GLASS! "STARS ARE FALSE"... MEANT THE BALL TONIGHT, WHERE EVERYONE WILL COME AS A MOVIE STAR!

AT THE HOUR GLASS, WHERE SOCIETY'S ELITE COME COSTUMED AS "STARS FOR A NIGHT!"

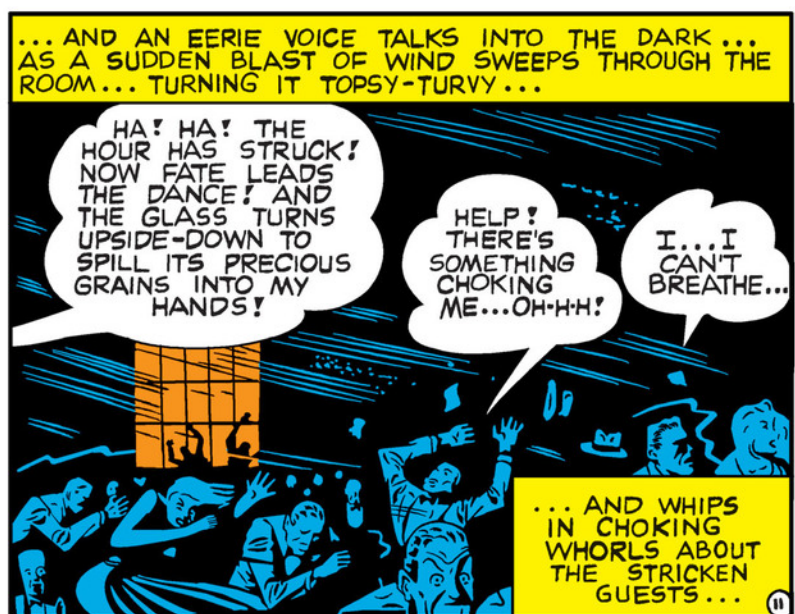
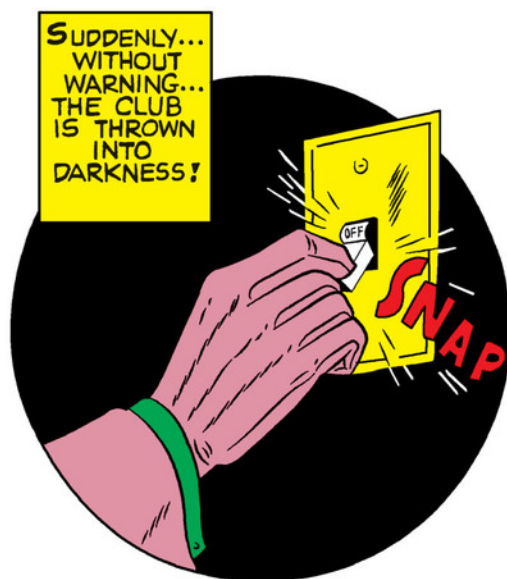
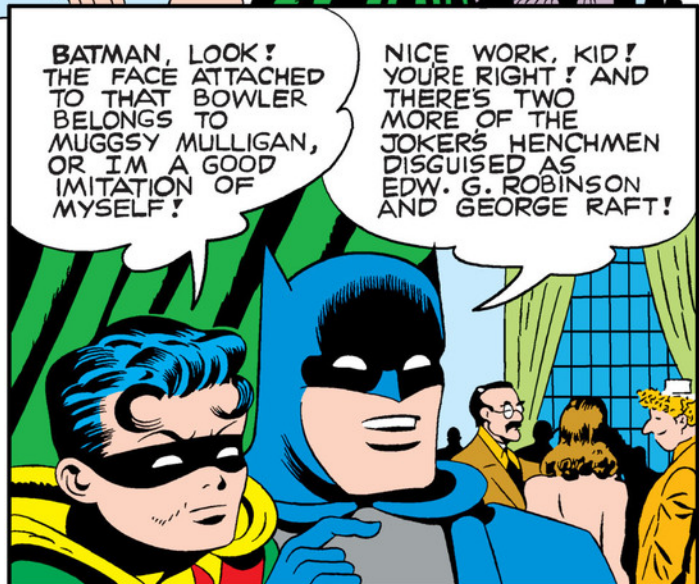
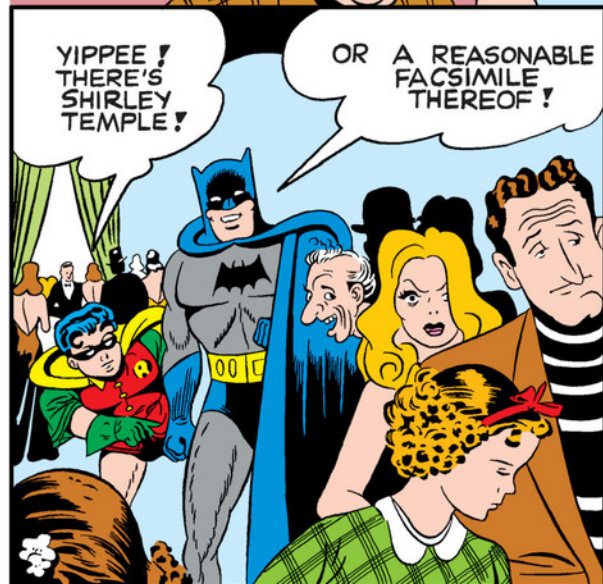
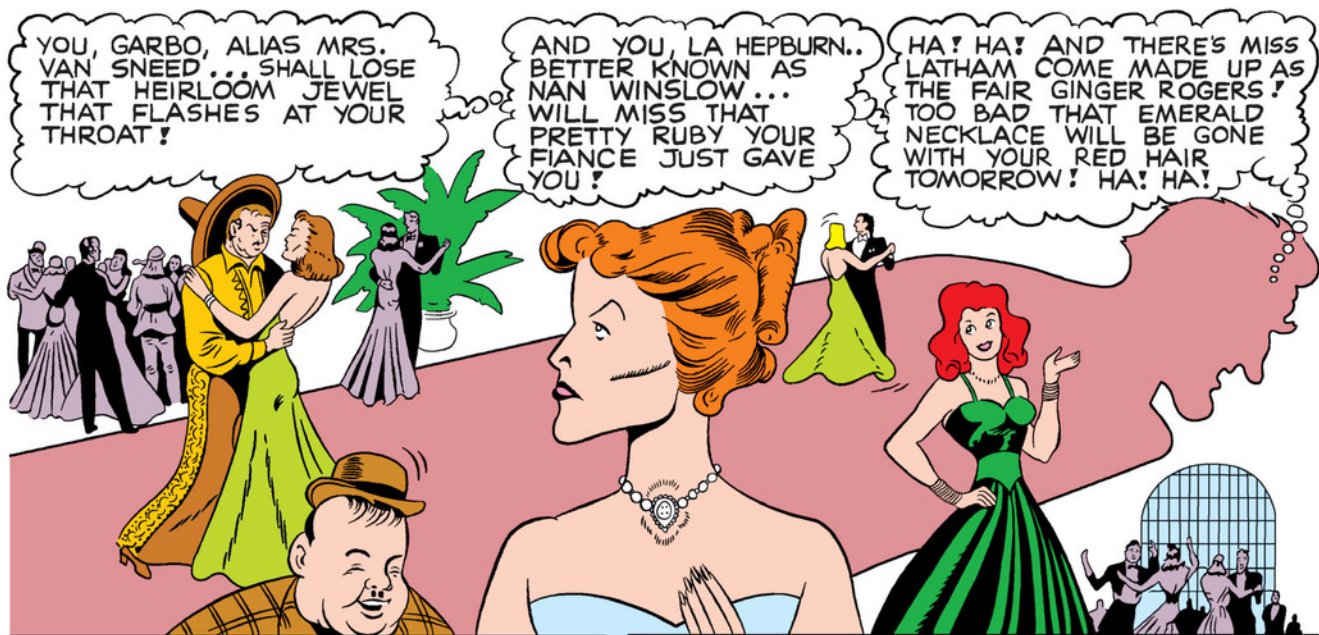
MISS GARBO, MAY I HAVE THIS DANCE?

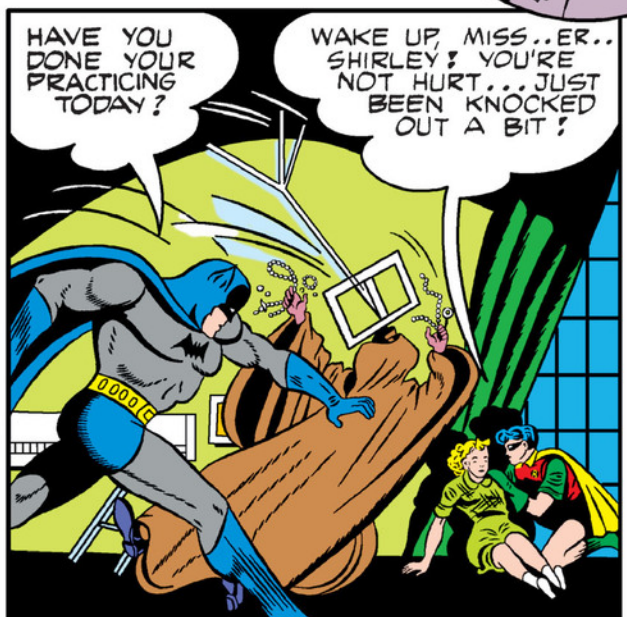
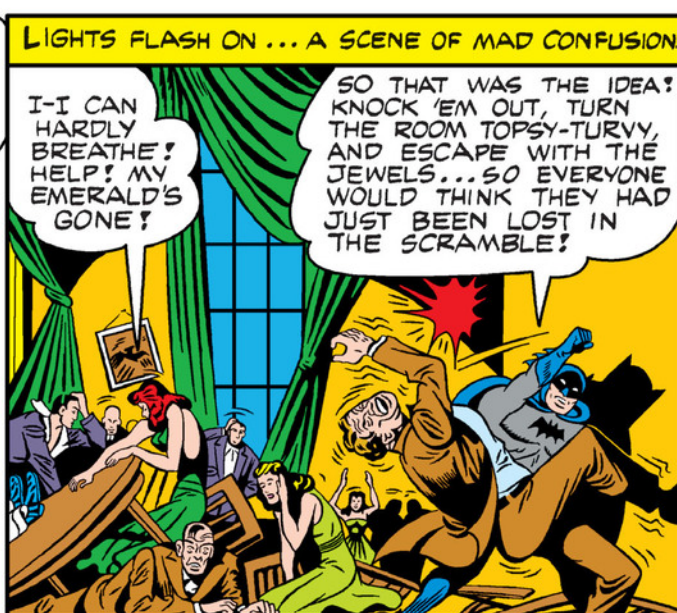
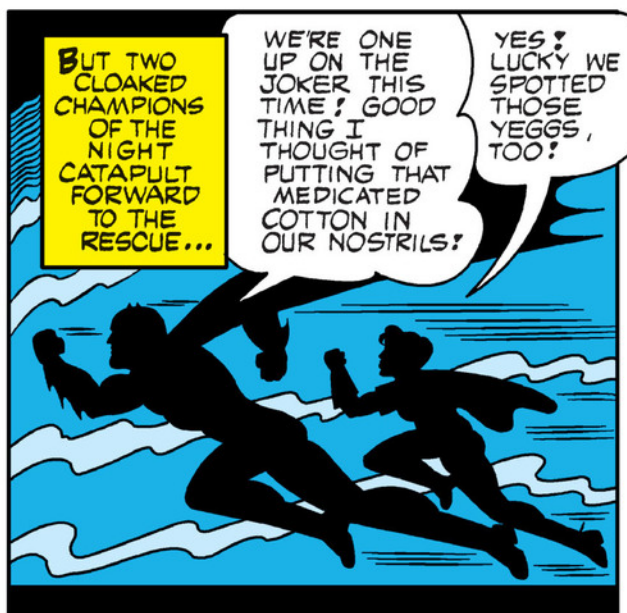
NO, FLAT FEET, I WISH TO BE ALONE!

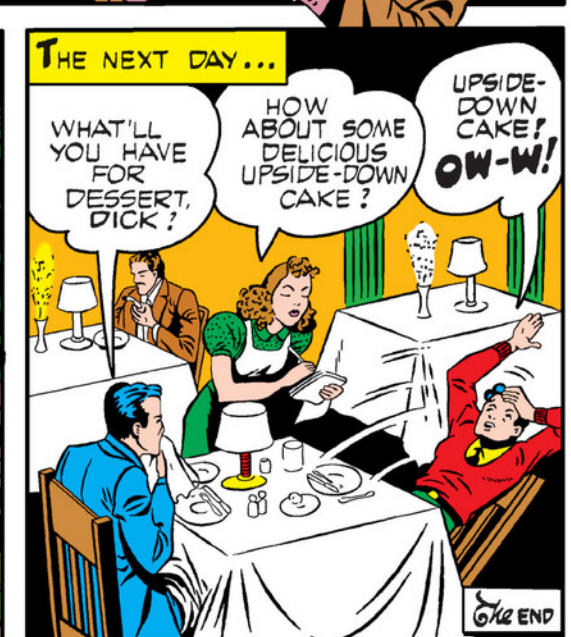
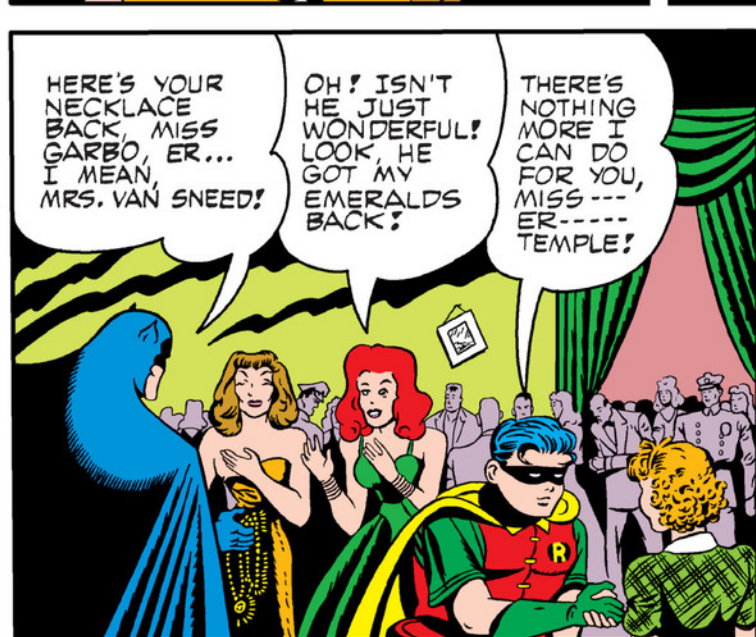
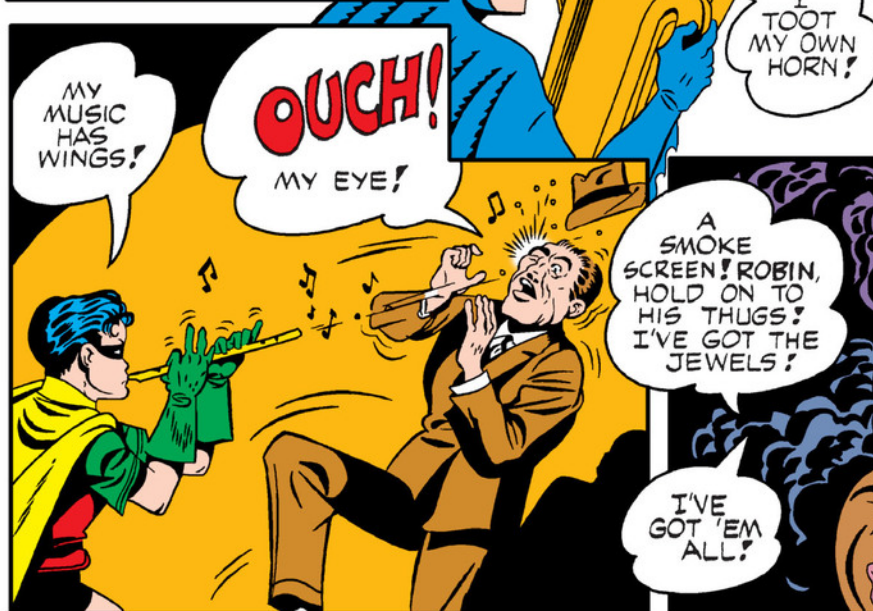
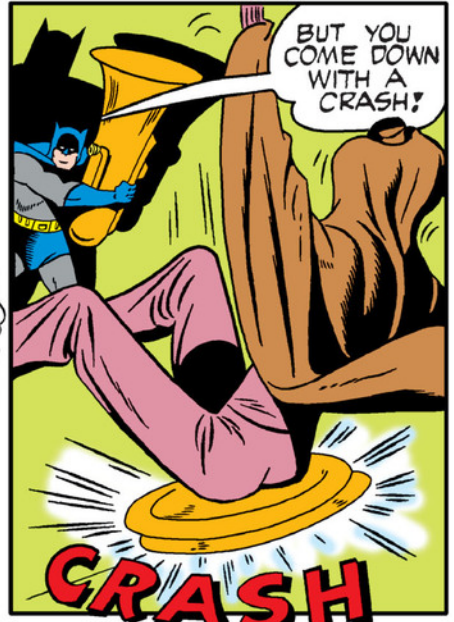
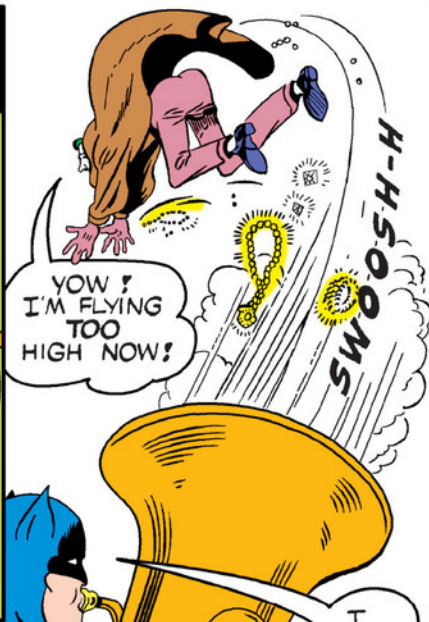
A GALAXY OF MAKE-BELIEVE MOVIE FOLK REVEL IN DANCE AND MERRIMENT...

WHILE A MORE SINISTER MANTLED FIGURE LURKS QUIETLY IN A SECLUDED CORNER...

HA! FOOLS! DANCE WHILE YOU MAY! AT MIDNIGHT, FATE'S WORKERS WILL WREAK HAVOC AMONG YOU...







BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

ADVENTURE IS HIS DAILY ROUTINE... MENACE IS THE CHALLENGE THAT SPURS HIM TO DAZZLING ACTION... PERIL IS THE SPICE THAT GUARANTEES THRILLS! YOU'VE SEEN THE RECKLESS, ROLICKING ROBIN TAKE THEM ALL IN STRIDE, FIGHTING BESIDE THE BATTLING BATMAN TO MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DECENT PEOPLE! BUT NOW A NEW INGREDIENT IS ADDED TO THE MIXTURE--ROMANCE-- AND THE RESULT IS GUARANTEED TO SURPRISE YOU AS THE BOY WONDER DARTS ALONG DEVIOUS PATHS OF DANGER, DARING DEATH FROM GANGSTER GUNS TO RESCUE A VERY PRETTY LITTLE--

"DAMSEL IN DISTRESS!" By-

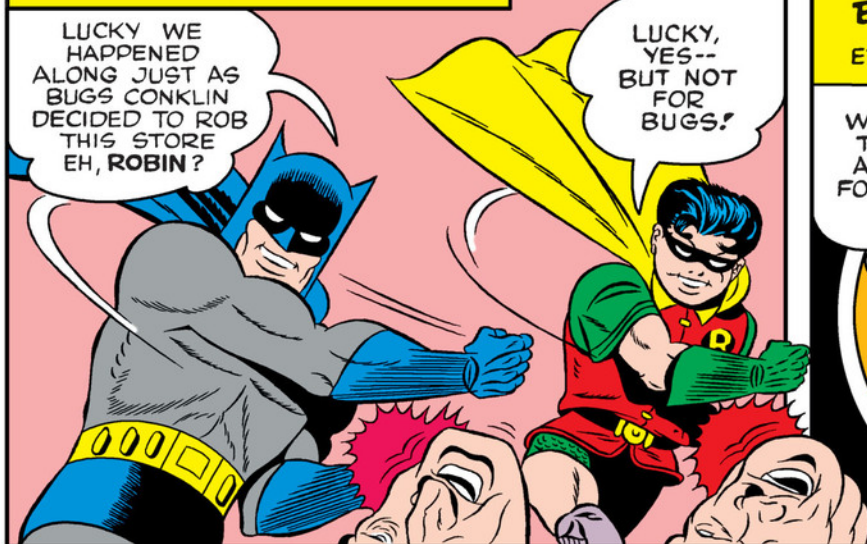
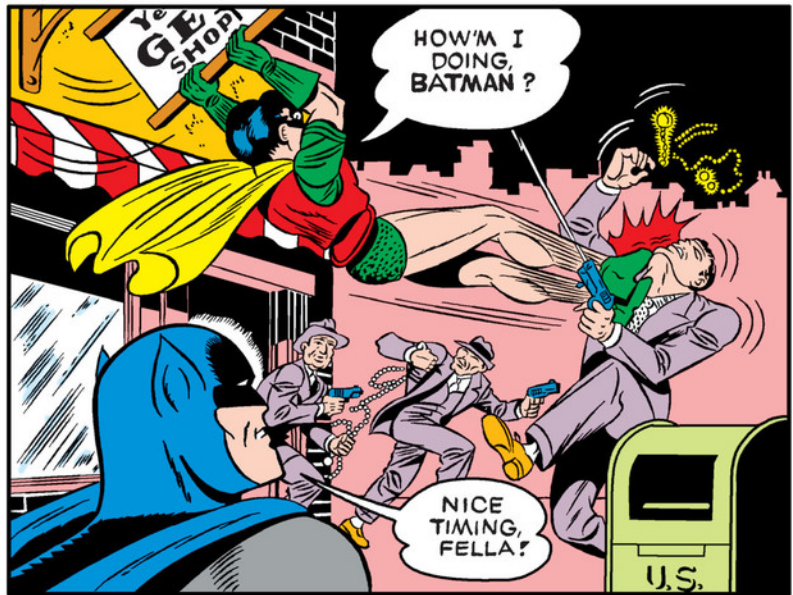
BOB
KANE



YOU'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE
AND YOU'LL SEE HIM AGAIN--
THE MIGHTY BATMAN'S DARING
YOUNG COMRADE IN
COMBAT--ROBIN

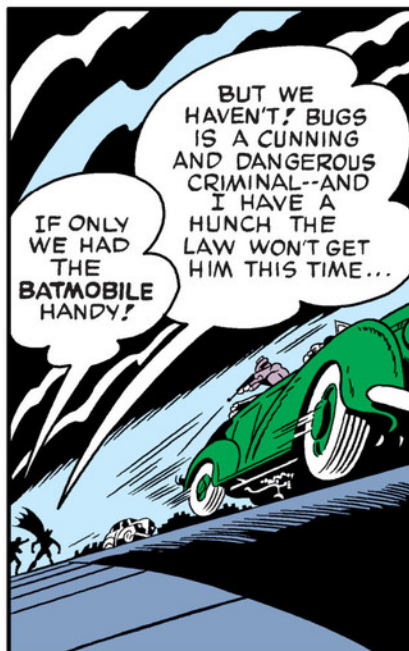
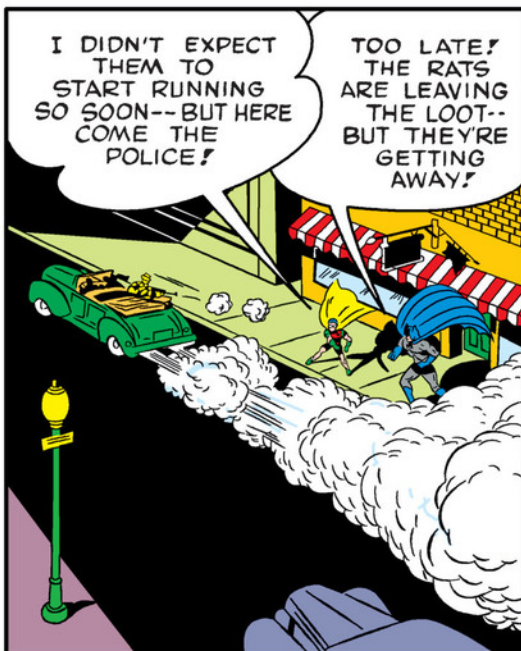


A PERFECT FIGHTING TEAM, THESE
TWO, GEARED TO SPLIT-SECOND
PRECISION!



BUGS CONKLIN, UNDERWORLD
KINGPIN, VALUES HIS SKIN
EVEN ABOVE ILL-GOTTEN RICHES...

WE CAN'T LICK
THE BATMAN
AND ROBIN!
FORGET THE SWAG,
AND LET'S
SCRAM!



BUT WE'LL GET HIM, IF IT TAKES FROM NOW TILL OUR WHISKERS ARE A FOOT LONG! EH, ROBIN?

HERE'S MY HAND ON IT!



SO MUCH FOR THE LAUGHING LAD WHO THRIVES ON HIGH ADVENTURE-- BUT WE MUSTN'T FORGET THAT **ROBIN** IS HUMAN, EVEN AS YOU AND I!



WAKE UP, DICK! IT'S HALF-PAST SEVEN!

HUH?... SO SOON? SEEMS AS IF I JUST HIT THE HAY!

LIKE SOME MILLIONS OF OTHER AMERICAN YOUNGSTERS, HE MUST PUT SCHOOL AHEAD OF ALL OTHER BUSINESS...

LEADING A DOUBLE LIFE IS TOUGH, EH? BUT YOU KNOW OUR BARGAIN-- IF YOU DON'T GET GOOD MARKS IN SCHOOL, YOU DON'T GO CROOK-CHASING!



HO HUM?... IT'S TOUGH SOMETIMES, BRUCE-- BUT IT'S WORTH IT!

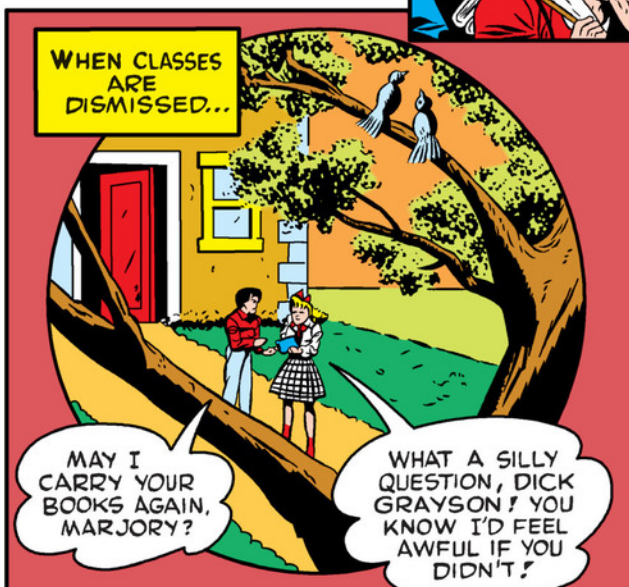
AND IF ROMANCE SOMETIMES INTRUDES, EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF LESSONS-- WELL, THAT'S HUMAN ENOUGH, ISN'T IT?



THE SMARTEST GIRL IN SCHOOL-- AND THE PRETTIEST IN THE WHOLE WORLD!

MARJORY, WILL YOU TRANSLATE THIS LATIN PHRASE?

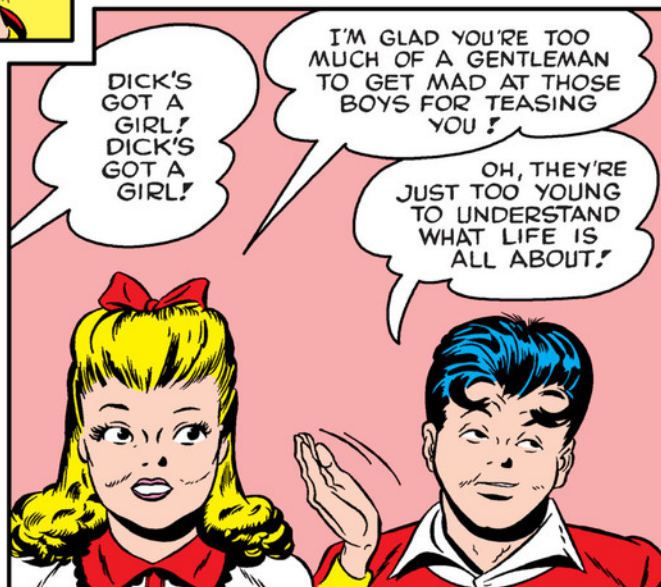
IT MEANS, "TO THE STARS THROUGH DIFFICULTIES!"



WHEN CLASSES ARE DISMISSED...

MAY I CARRY YOUR BOOKS AGAIN, MARJORY?

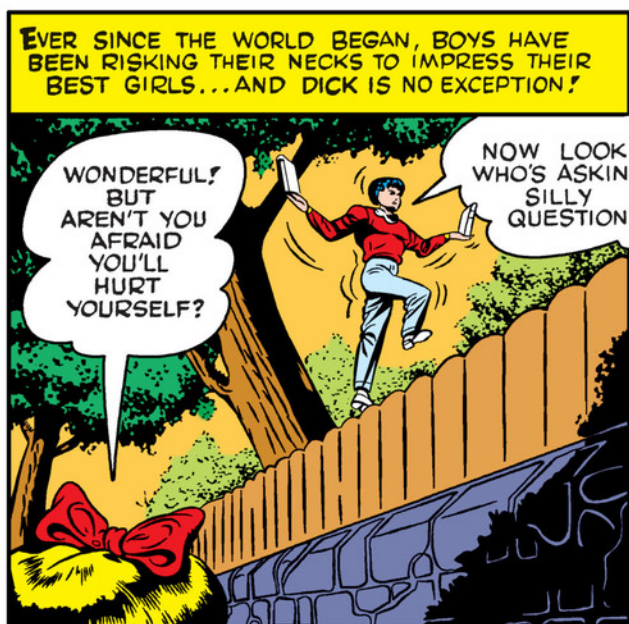
WHAT A SILLY QUESTION, DICK GRAYSON! YOU KNOW I'D FEEL AWFUL IF YOU DIDN'T!



DICK'S GOT A GIRL! DICK'S GOT A GIRL!

I'M GLAD YOU'RE TOO MUCH OF A GENTLEMAN TO GET MAD AT THOSE BOYS FOR TEASING YOU!

OH, THEY'RE JUST TOO YOUNG TO UNDERSTAND WHAT LIFE IS ALL ABOUT!



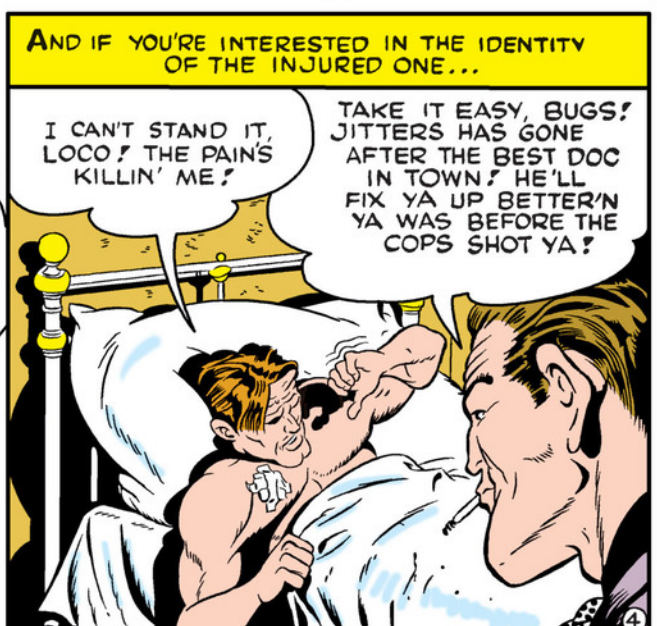
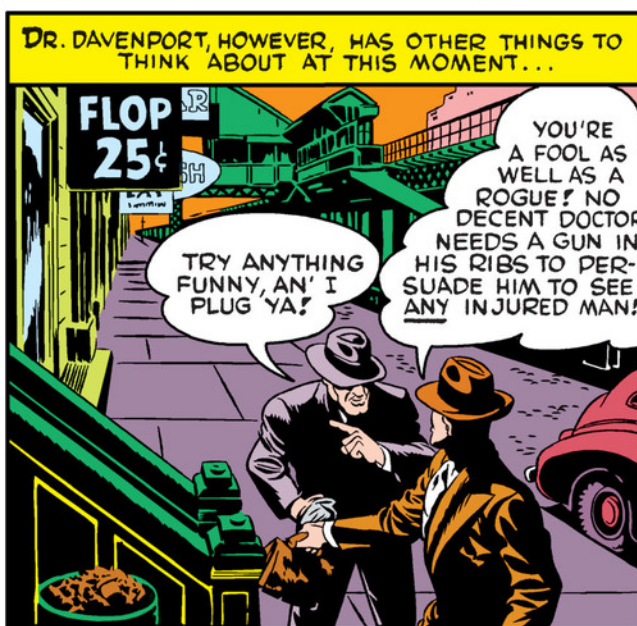
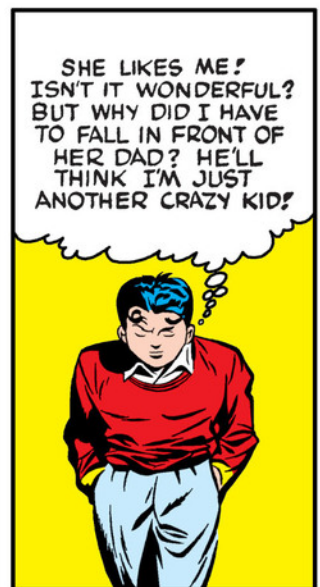
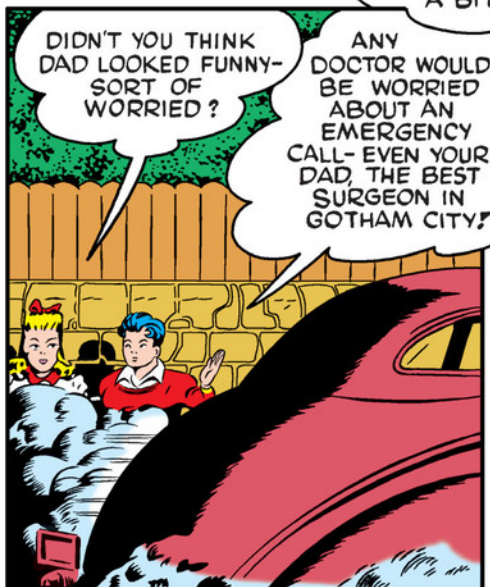
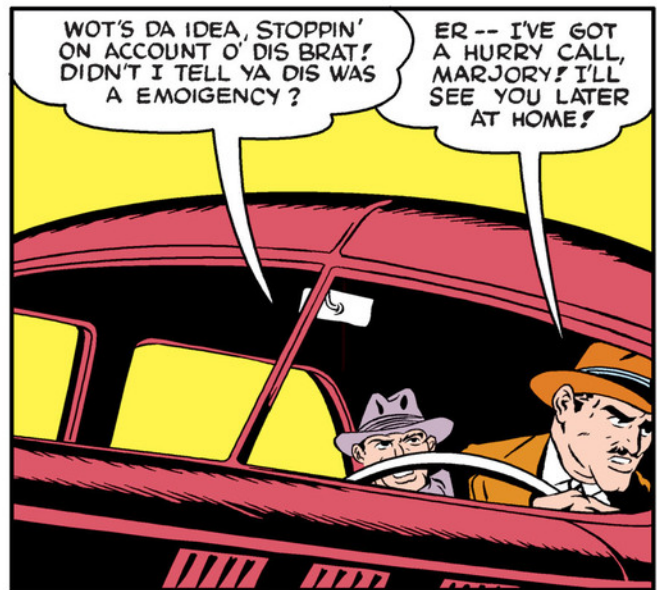
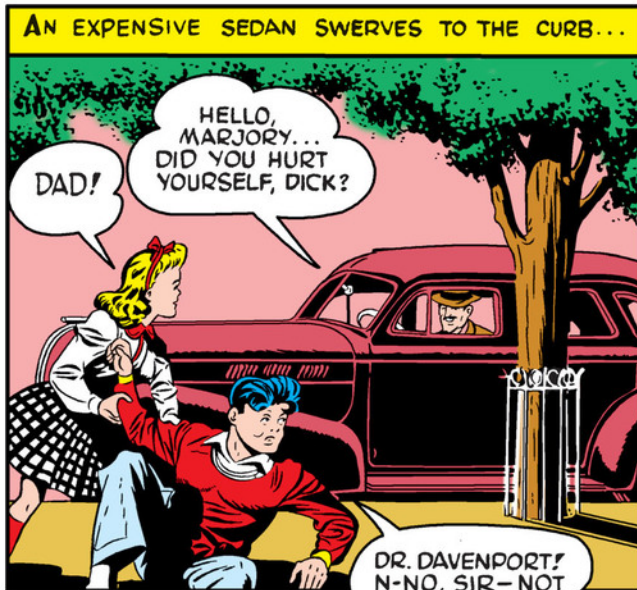
EVER SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN, BOYS HAVE BEEN RISKING THEIR NECKS TO IMPRESS THEIR BEST GIRLS... AND DICK IS NO EXCEPTION!

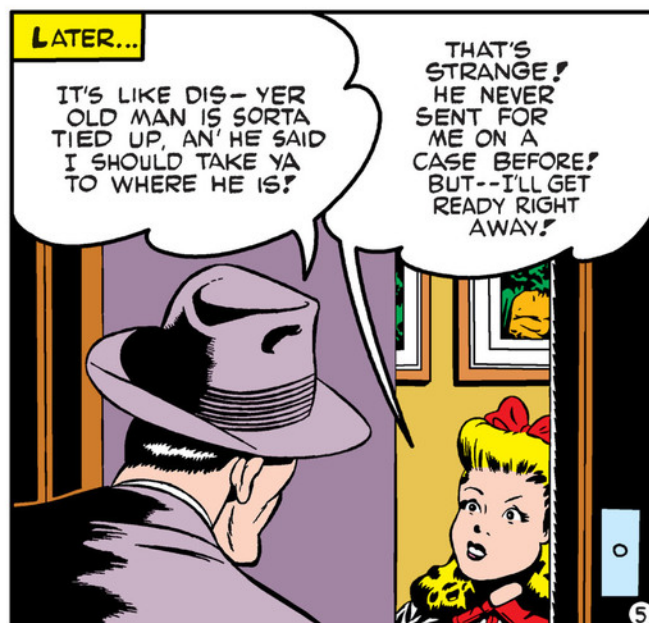
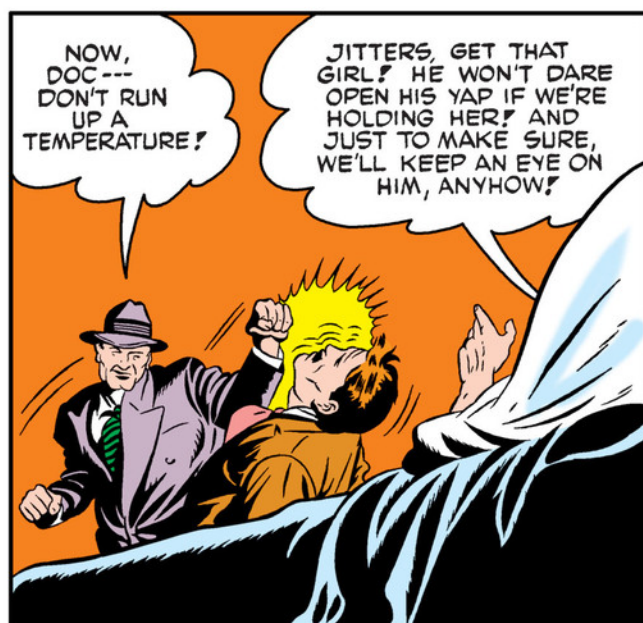
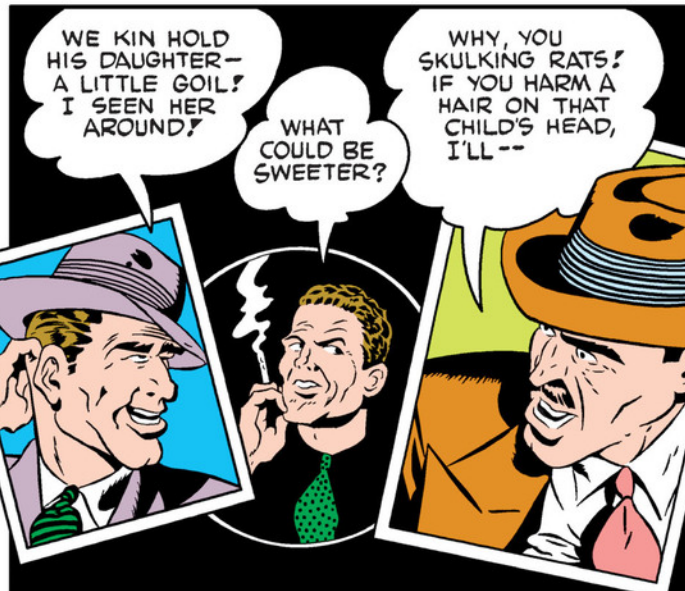
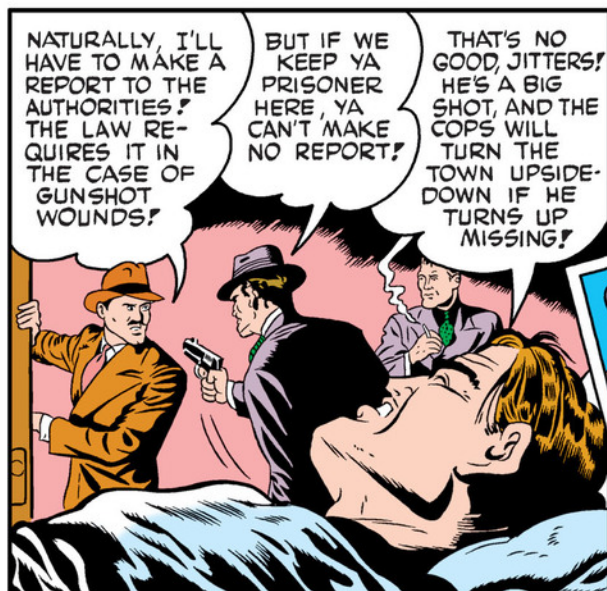
WONDERFUL! BUT AREN'T YOU AFRAID YOU'LL HURT YOURSELF?

NOW LOOK WHO'S ASKING SILLY QUESTIONS!

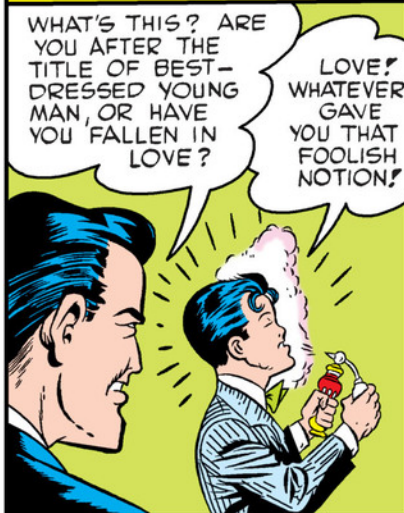


DICK! HOW PERFECTLY TERRIBLE!

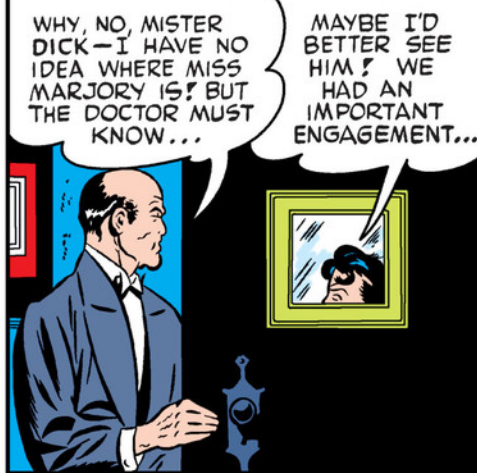


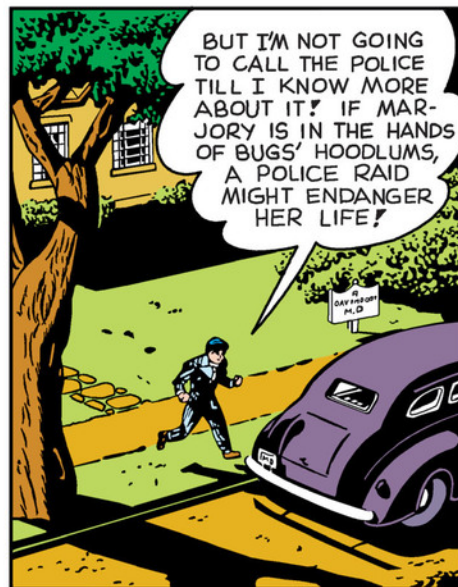
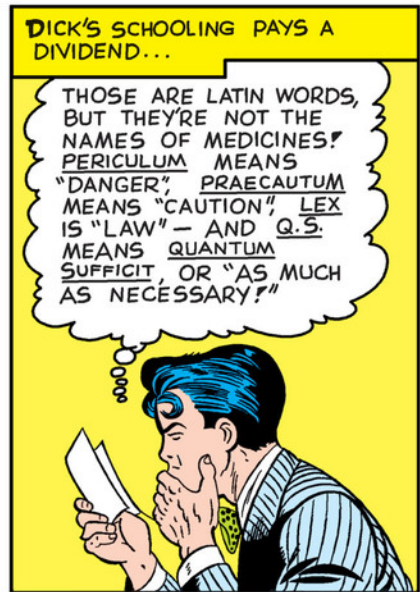
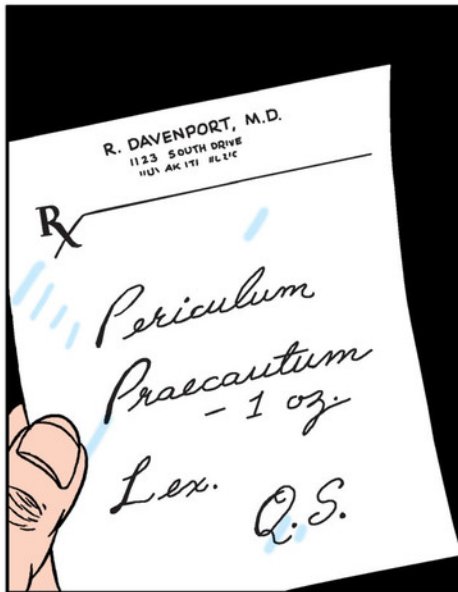
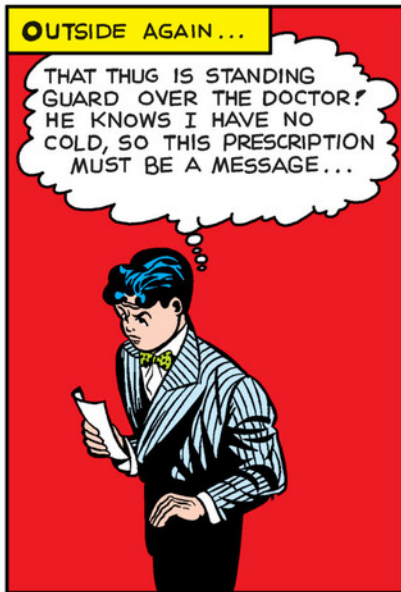


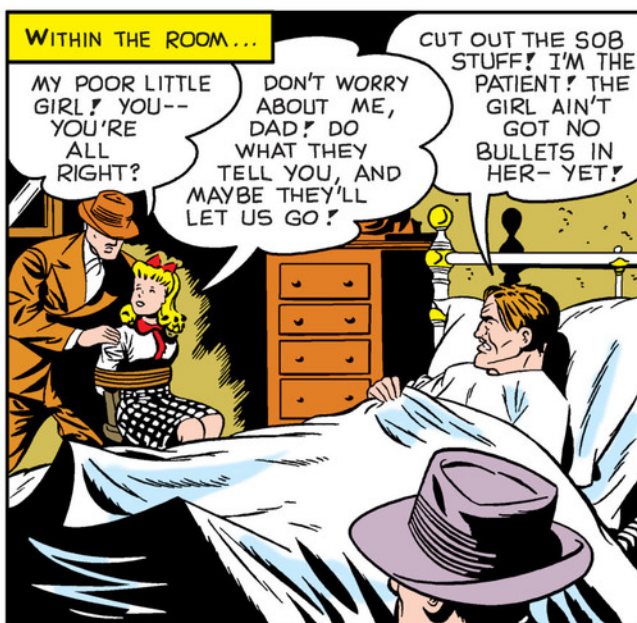
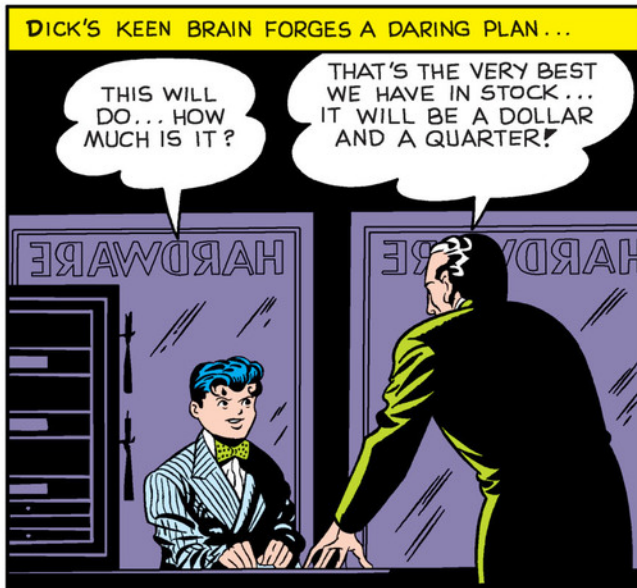
THE FOLLOWING DAY, AT THE WAYNE HOME...

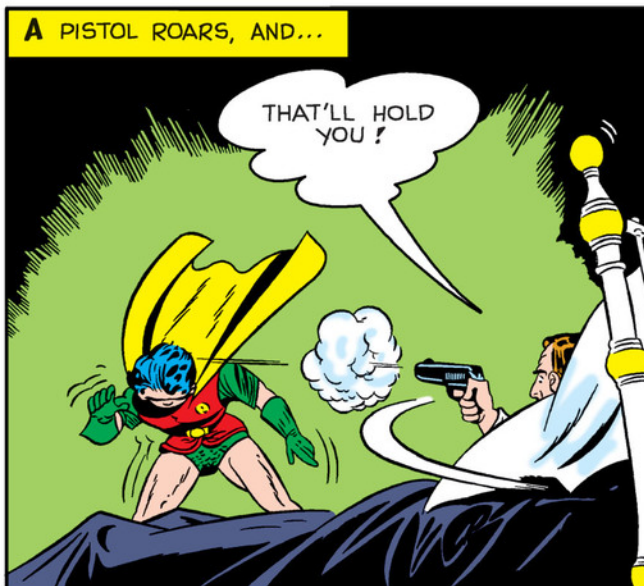
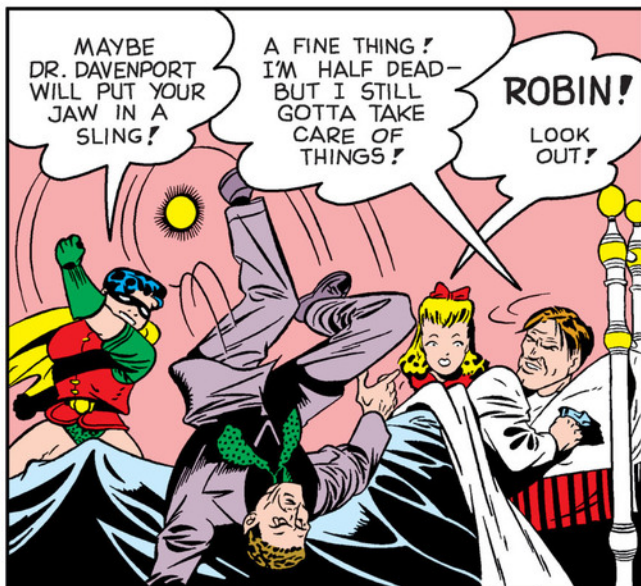
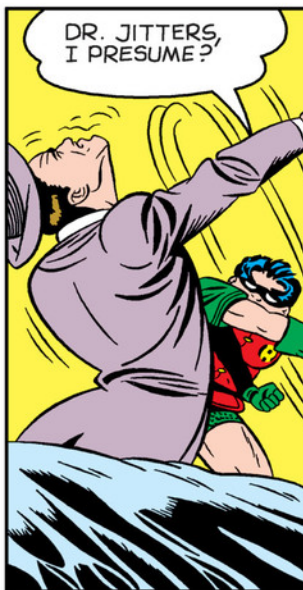
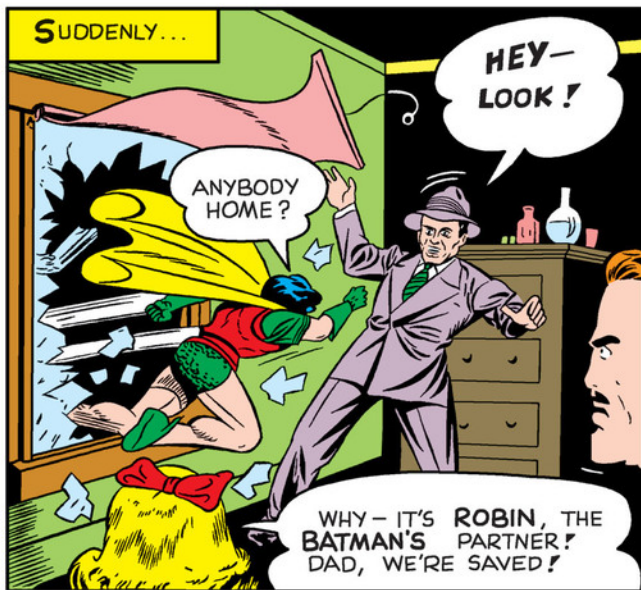


ALL DRESSED UP — AND IT BEGINS TO LOOK AS IF DICK ISN'T GOING ANYWHERE!

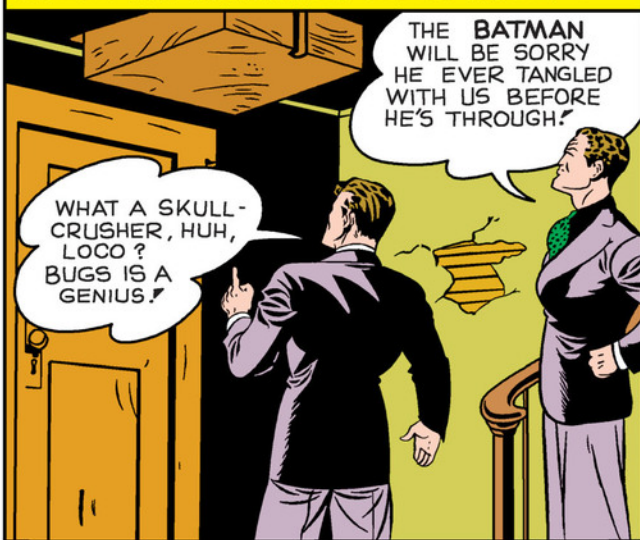








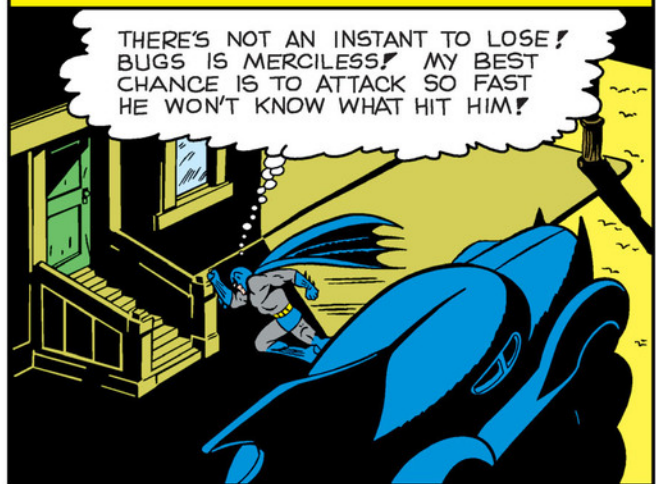
CUNNING AND TREACHEROUS DEVICES ARE SET...



WHAT A SKULL-CRUSHER, HUH, LOCO? BUGS IS A GENIUS!

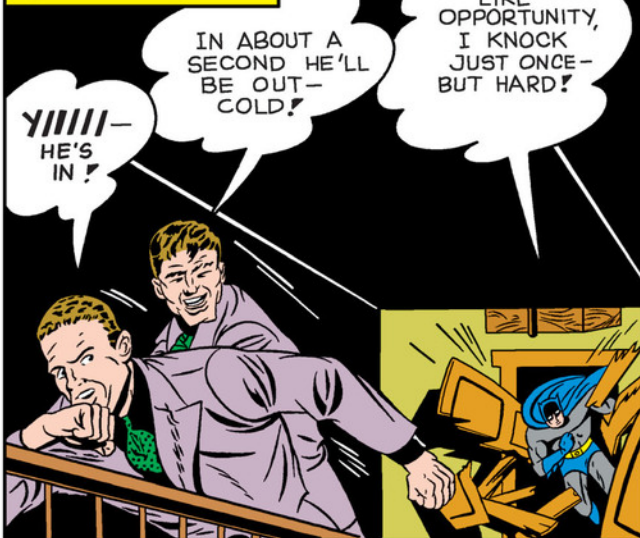
THE BATMAN WILL BE SORRY HE EVER TANGLED WITH US BEFORE HE'S THROUGH!

AT THAT MOMENT, AN ODD, RAKISH CAR DISCHARGES A LITHE, VIVID FIGURE AT THE CORNER - THE BATMAN!



THERE'S NOT AN INSTANT TO LOSE! BUGS IS MERCILESS! MY BEST CHANCE IS TO ATTACK SO FAST HE WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT HIM!

SECONDS LATER...



YIIII- HE'S IN!

IN ABOUT A SECOND HE'LL BE OUT - COLD!

LIKE OPPORTUNITY, I KNOCK JUST ONCE - BUT HARD!

AND AS THE BATMAN'S FOOT TOUCHES A HIDDEN BUTTON...



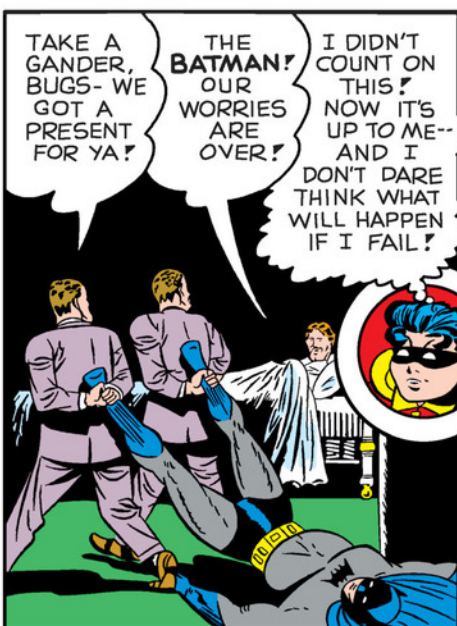
YOU'RE ALL WASHED UP - OOOOOHH

WAS I RIGHT, OR WAS I RIGHT?

TAKE A GANDER, BUGS - WE GOT A PRESENT FOR YA!

THE BATMAN! OUR WORRIES ARE OVER!

I DIDN'T COUNT ON THIS! NOW IT'S UP TO ME - AND I DON'T DARE THINK WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I FAIL!



WHAT A BREAK! WHEN THE BATMAN COMES TO, I'M GONNA PUT HIM OUT AGAIN - FOR KEEPS!



OH, ROBIN - IT'S WORSE THAN THE WORST NIGHTMARE I EVER HAD! CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING?

FOR YOU, MARJORY, I CAN DO ANYTHING!!!! THAT IS, - I MEAN, FOR YOU AND MY FRIEND, DICK! TO SAY NOTHING OF THE BATMAN!



NOR IS ROBIN BOASTING IDLY—FOR AS HIS FINGER CURLS, THE OBJECT HE BOUGHT IN THE HARDWARE STORE SLICES THROUGH THE HEAVY LEATHER OF HIS GLOVE !!!!!

... A TINY SECTION OF HACKSAW BLADE, RAZOR-SHARP, IS TURNED AGAINST THE ROPES THAT HOLD HIM POWERLESS ...

AS THE MISTS OF INSENSIBILITY LIFT FROM HIS BRAIN, THE **BATMAN LOOKS DEATH IN THE FACE—NOT FOR THE FIRST TIME !**

I'M WOUNDED AND I'M SICK— BUT I'M A BETTER MAN THAN YOU ARE, **BATMAN**! YOU'RE DRAWING YOUR LAST BREATH RIGHT NOW!

BY KILLING ME, BUGS, YOU'RE DOOMING YOURSELF! ONE OF THESE DAYS THE ELECTRIC CHAIR WILL CATCH UP WITH YOU!

EVEN AS THE KILLER'S TRIGGER FINGER TIGHTENS, A SMALL BUT AGILE BODY MOVES WITH FRANTIC SPEED — AND ...

WHILE THEY'RE DUSTING OFF THE ELECTRIC CHAIR, THIS ONE WILL HAVE TO DO !

AAAA-AAA-AA...

ROBIN !

SHOTS CRASH OUT WILDLY AS THE ARCH-CRIMINAL'S HENCHMEN FIGHT DESPERATELY ...

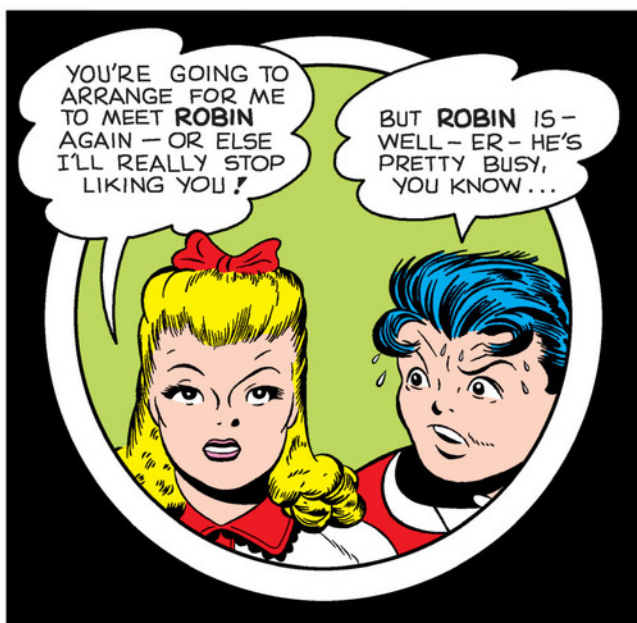
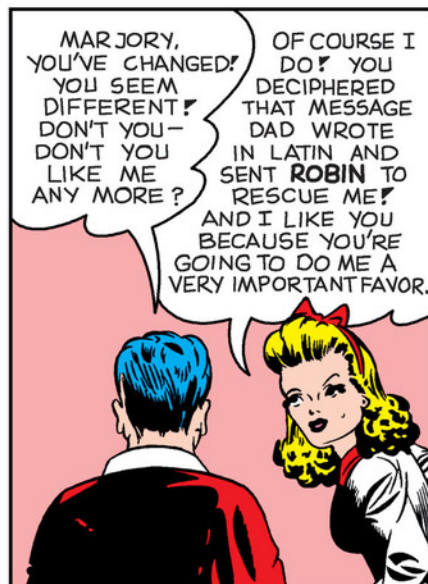
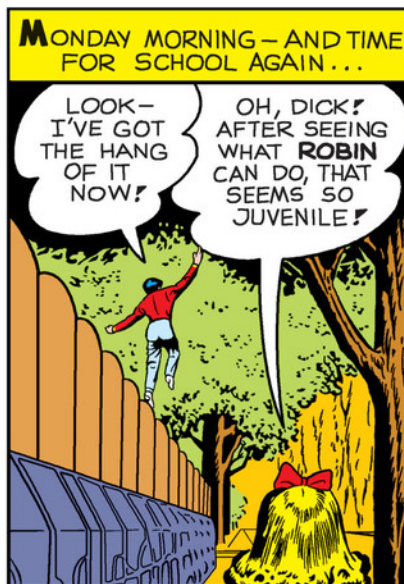
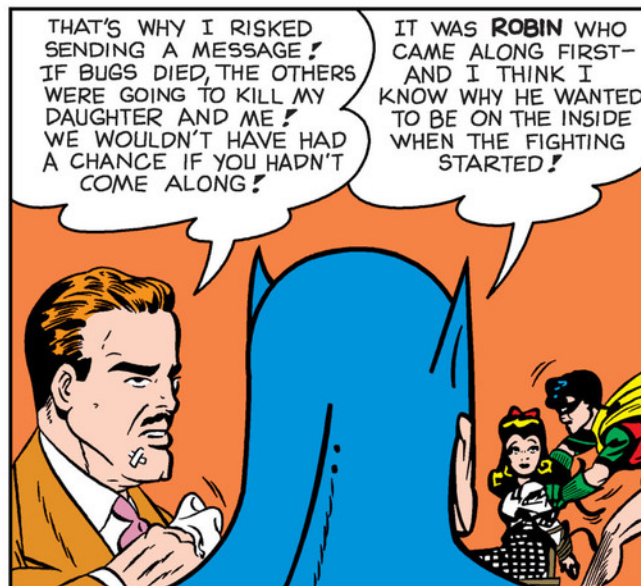
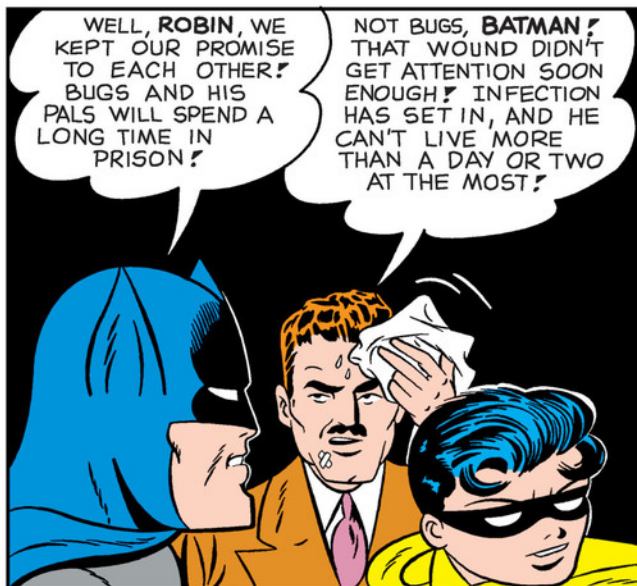
YA AIN'T GETTIN' AWAY WITH IT!

THEN YOUR AIM HAD BETTER IMPROVE IN A HURRY !

THIS WON'T KILL YOU — BUT YOU'LL BE AS GOOD AS DEAD FOR QUITE A WHILE !

YES — BUT HE HAD YOU PICKED OUT FOR HIS BULLETS!

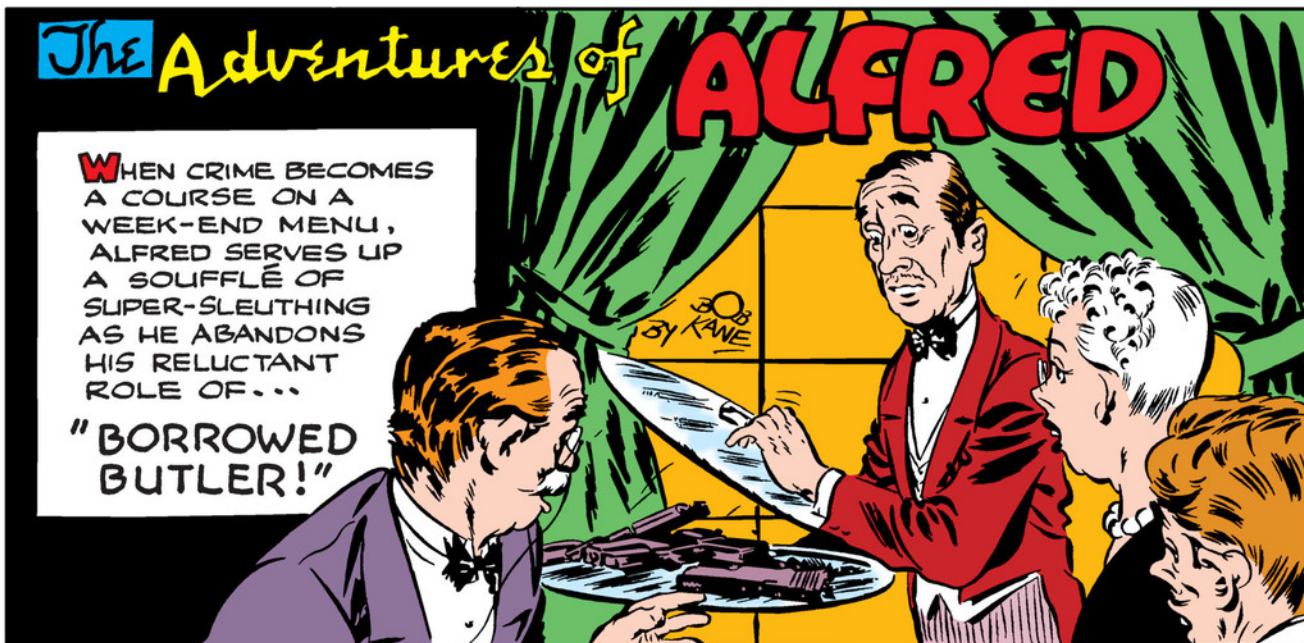
NO FAIR! I HAD LOCO PICKED OUT FOR MYSELF!



The Adventures of **ALFRED**

WHEN CRIME BECOMES
A COURSE ON A
WEEK-END MENU,
ALFRED SERVES UP
A SOUFFLÉ OF
SUPER-SLEUTHING
AS HE ABANDONS
HIS RELUCTANT
ROLE OF...

**"BORROWED
BUTLER!"**



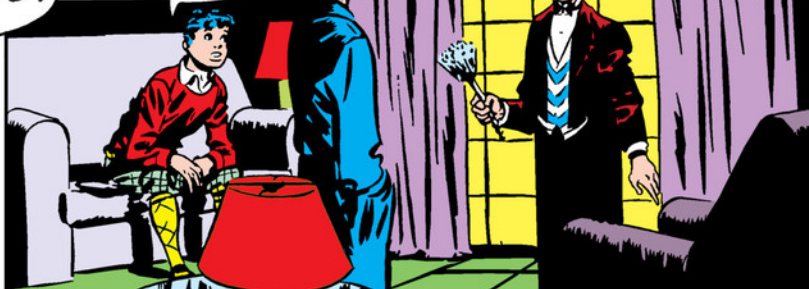
**A FRIDAY AFTERNOON IN
THE WAYNE HOUSEHOLD.**

ER--ALFRED--
I WAS WONDER-
ING... THAT IS--
WOULD YOU
MIND DOING ME
A FAVOR?

A FAVOR, SIR?
WHY, MOST
ASSUREDLY!
SOME PROBLEM
IN SLEUTHING
THAT REQUIRES MY
SERVICES, PERHAPS?

THE
TRUTH IS, ALFRED,
MRS. VAN UPSITART
NEEDS YOU FOR
THE WEEK-END!
SO SHE ASKED
IF--

WELL--UH-- NOT EXACTLY, ALFRED, OLD
FELLOW. YOU SEE-- I'M UNDER
AN OBLIGATION TO
OUR NEIGHBOR,
MRS. VAN UPSITART,
AND...

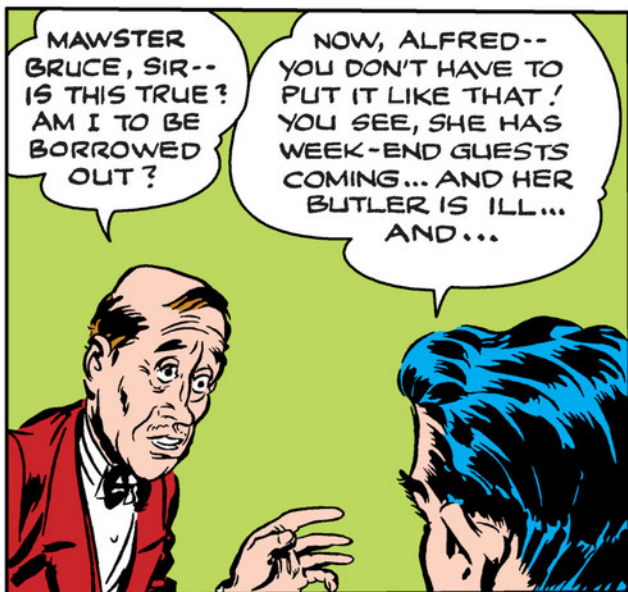


MAWSTER
BRUCE, SIR--
IS THIS TRUE?
AM I TO BE
BORROWED
OUT?

NOW, ALFRED--
YOU DON'T HAVE TO
PUT IT LIKE THAT!
YOU SEE, SHE HAS
WEEK-END GUESTS
COMING... AND HER
BUTLER IS ILL...
AND...

WELL, SIR--
SINCE WE CAN'T
GET OUT OF IT,
I PRESUME I
MUST GO.

GOOD
SOLDIER,
ALFRED! I
KNEW YOU'D
DO IT!



SO LATER, WE FIND AN UNHAPPY AND RELUCTANT ALFRED RECEIVING FINAL INSTRUCTIONS IN THE NEARBY HOME OF MRS. VAN UPSITART.

ALFRED, THIS DINNER FOR MY VISITING NEPHEW OSWALD MUST GO SMOOTHLY. THERE ARE ONLY TWELVE GUESTS. YOU WON'T BE OVERWORKED. AND NOW, I MUST RETURN TO THE DINING ROOM...

BAH...ER... I MEAN ABSOLUTELY!



NOW, OSWALD, HOW DO YOU LIKE YOUR FIRST VISIT TO GOTHAM CITY?

FRANKLY, AUNTIE...IT'S A DULL TOWN!

HMM.. MAYBE IF I SPILL THIS SALAD ON HER DEAR NEPHEW.. BUT NO..IT WOULD BE A REFLECTION ON MR. WAYNE ...



WHAT? DULL? NOT WITH THE CELEBRATED BATMAN AROUND! THAT FELLOW IS TERRIFIC! EVERY DAY...

OH, YES, SIR! THE BATMAN IS...

ALFRED! YOU WILL SPEAK WHEN YOU'RE SPOKEN TO!



ER..I BEG PARDON, MA'AM!

SEE THAT IT DOESN'T HAPPEN AGAIN!

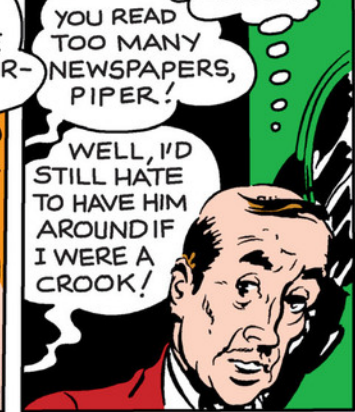
BATMAN, MR. PIPER? WHY, I'M SURE HE'S JUST OVER-RATED.. NO MAN CAN BE THAT GOOD!



THAT YOUNG BOUNDER! HE CAN'T SAY THAT ABOUT BATMAN IN MY PRESENCE! I HOPE MR. PIPER PUTS HIM IN HIS PLACE!

YOU READ TOO MANY NEWSPAPERS, PIPER!

WELL, I'D STILL HATE TO HAVE HIM AROUND IF I WERE A CROOK!



NONSENSE! BATMAN IS ONLY AN ORDINARY... YOW!!

THIS IS THE LAST STRAW...

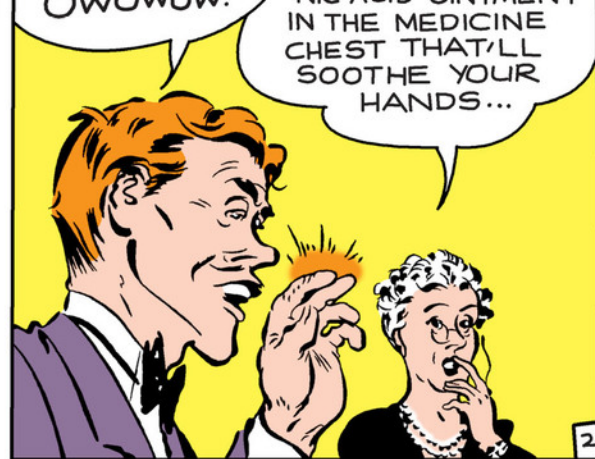
OOPS.. BEG PARDON, SIR!

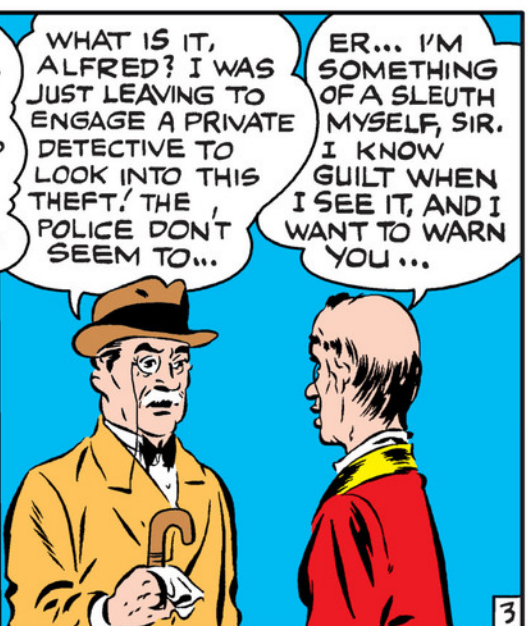
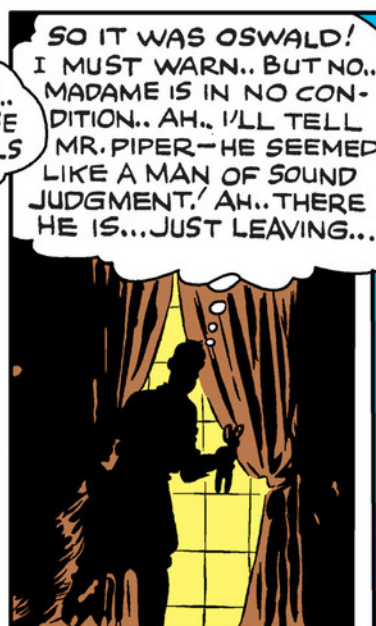
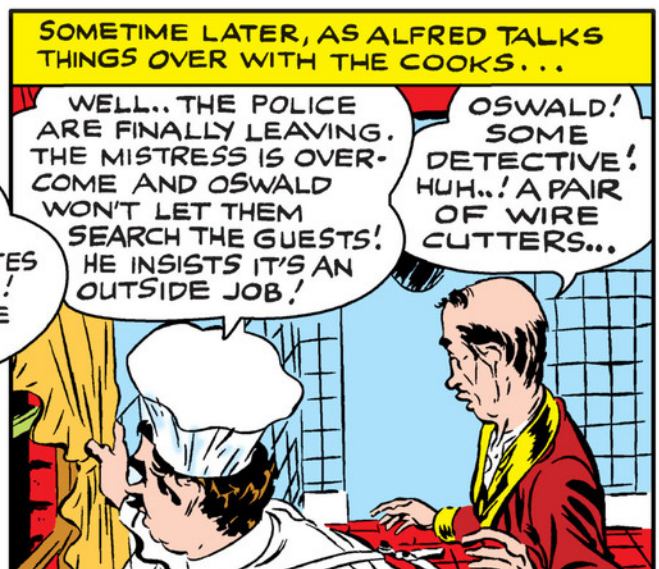
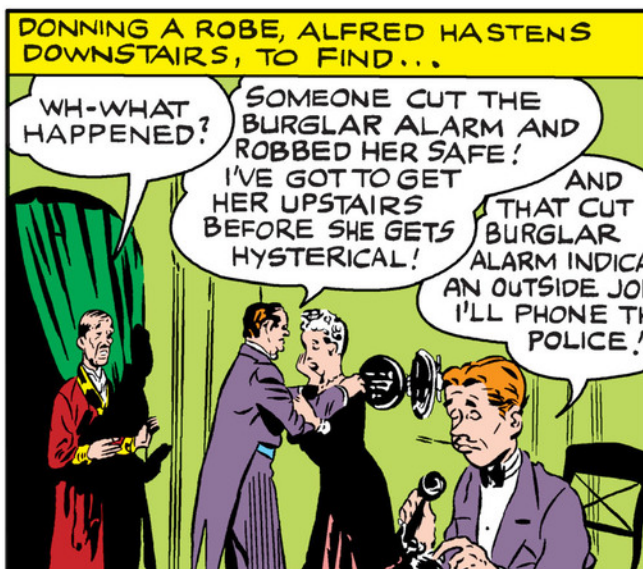
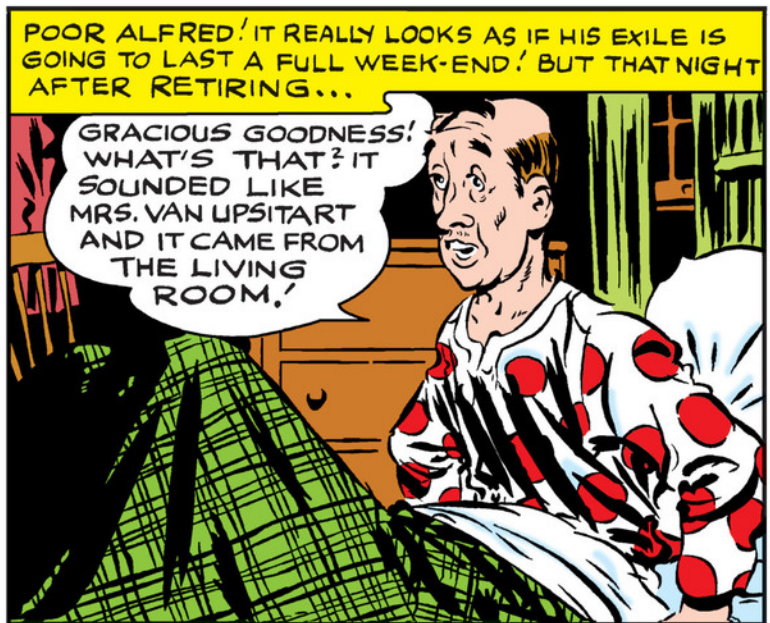
ALFRED! YOU CLUMSY FOOL!

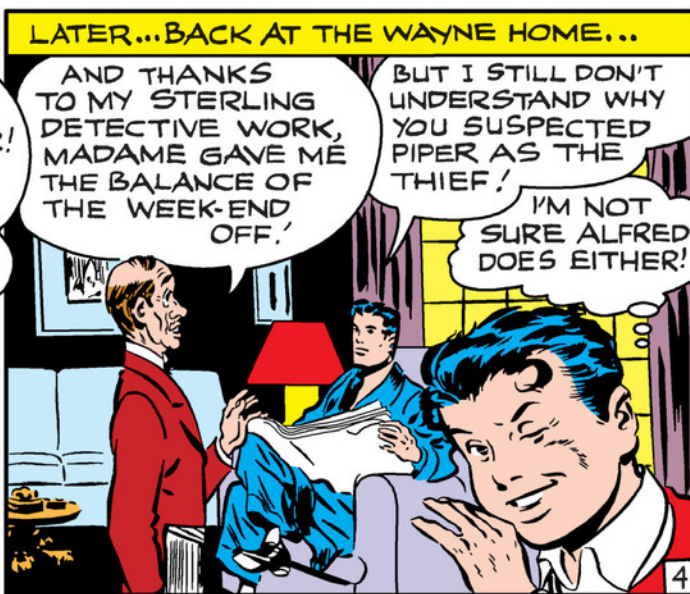
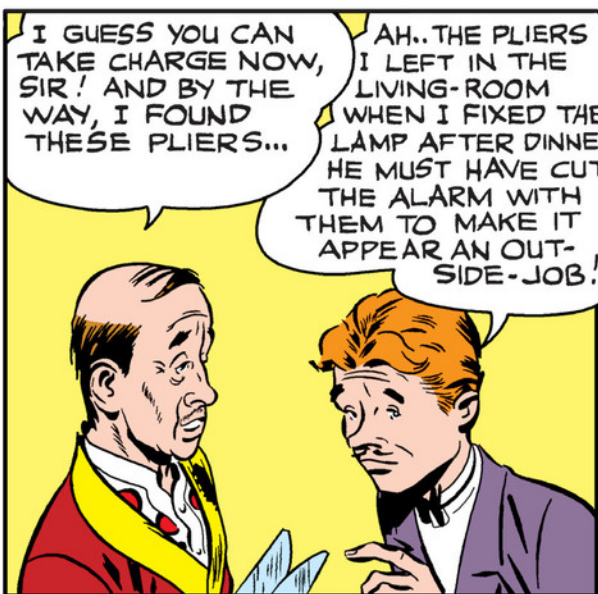
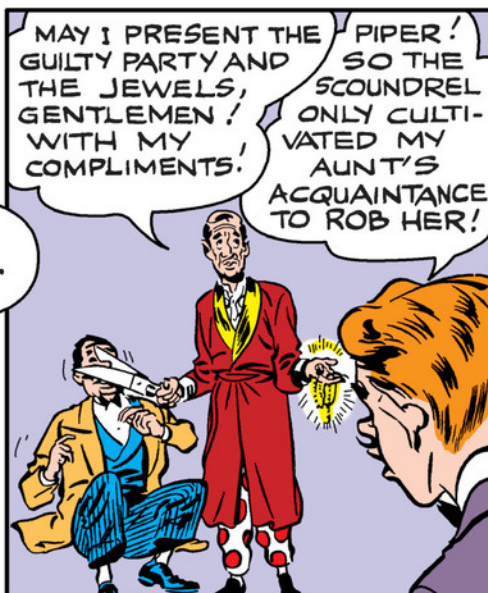
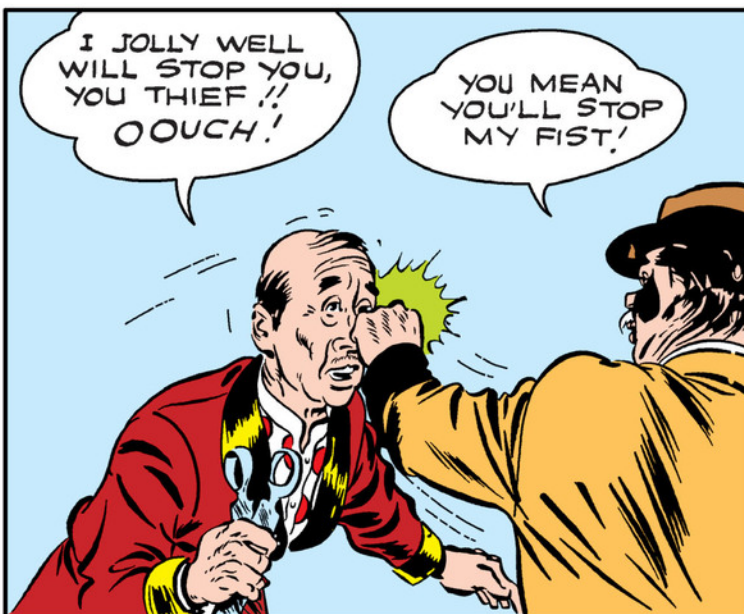


MY FINGERS... THAT MATCH BURNED THEM! OWOWOW!

HOW COULD YOU DO SUCH A THING, ALFRED! OSWALD, THERE'S SOME TANNIC ACID OINTMENT IN THE MEDICINE CHEST THAT'LL SOOTHE YOUR HANDS...







BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

A POLICE
DIVISION STORY

BY JOE
LAVE

IF IT'S TROUBLE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, JOIN THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE! COURAGEOUS AND RESOURCEFUL, THESE COLORFUL RED-COATED LAWMEN PATROL A BEAT LARGER THAN ANY OTHER IN THE WORLD... FROM THE BLUE PACIFIC TO THE STORMY ATLANTIC, FROM THE GREAT LAKES TO THE FAR, FROZEN ARCTIC! AND THEIR MOTTO—"THE MOUNTIES ALWAYS GET THEIR MAN!"—IS NO IDLE SLOGAN, AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** SWIFTLY LEARN WHEN THEY TEAM UP WITH THE POLICE FORCE OF THE NORTHERN WILDERNESS TO TRAP A SHREWD AND REMORSELESS BAND OF...

"PELT PLUNDERERS!"



ON VACATION IN CANADA'S REMOTE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, NEAR HUDSON BAY, TWO FAMILIAR FIGURES TRACK THE FLEET CARIBOU-SOCIETY PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

IT CERTAINLY IS A RELIEF TO GET AWAY FROM THE NOISY CITY AND CROOK-CHASING!

YOU SAID IT, BRUCE! NOW IF WE CAN ONLY FIND SOMETHING TO HUNT!...



SUDDENLY...

ARF! ARF! NO, YOU DON'T! GET HIM, YOU MUGGS!

SOMETHING'S GOING ON! WE'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!

WHAT-?



THE MUTTS STOPPED TO FIGHT OVER THE MEAT WE THREW 'EM LIKE THE BOSS SAID THEY WOULD!

NOW KAYO THIS CHUMP AND GRAB THE FURS!

A HOLDUP- HERE IN THE NORTH WOODS! C'MON, DICK!



SPLIT SECONDS LATER, DOUBLE DISASTER STRIKES THE GANG AS BATMAN AND ROBIN SPRING INTO ACTION!

YOW!

LOOK WHO'S HERE! OUTA MY WAY!

DON'T BREAK IT UP, RATS! LEAVE THAT TO US!



THERE OUGHTA BE A LAW MAKIN' YOU GUYS STAY IN THE CITY, WHERE YOU BELONG!... OOOF!

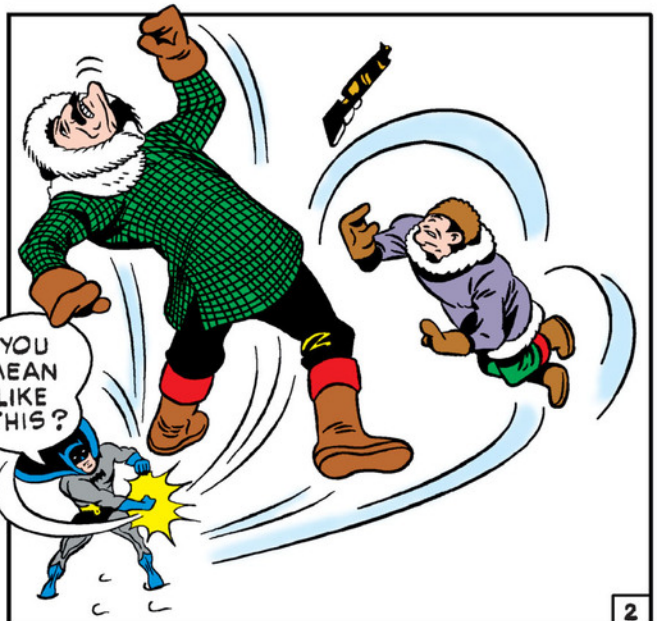
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE NEEDED EVERYWHERE!

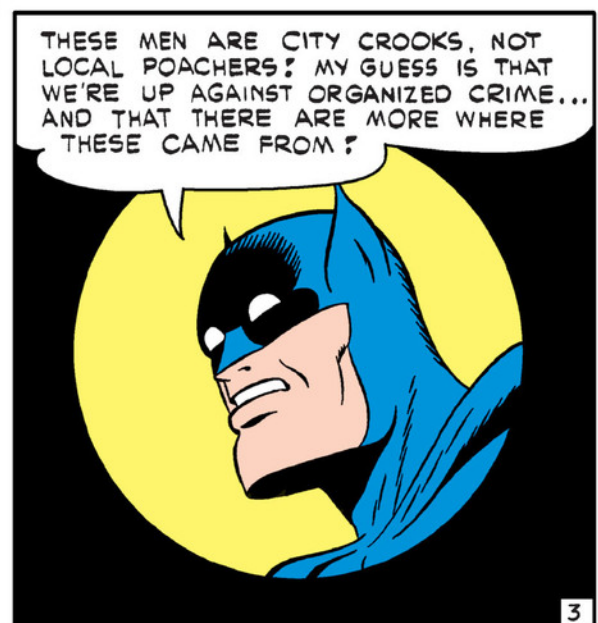
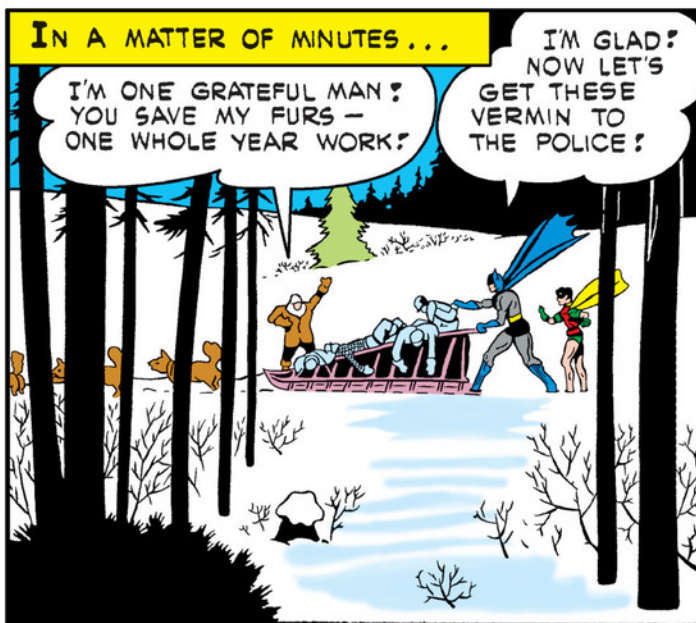
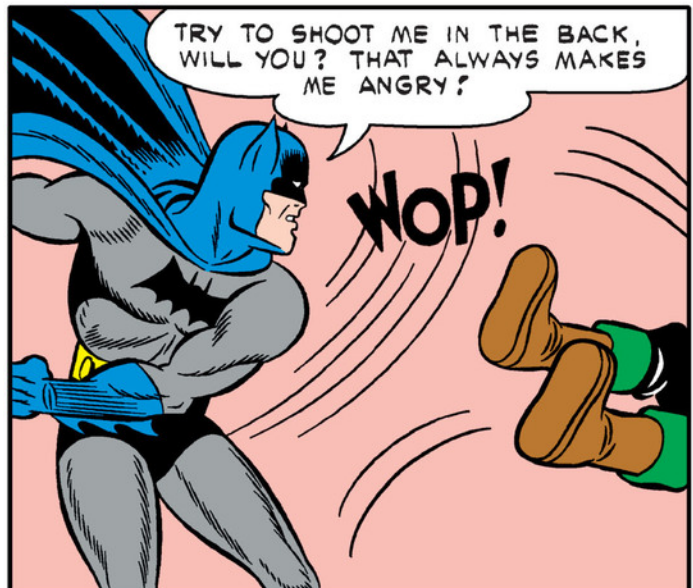
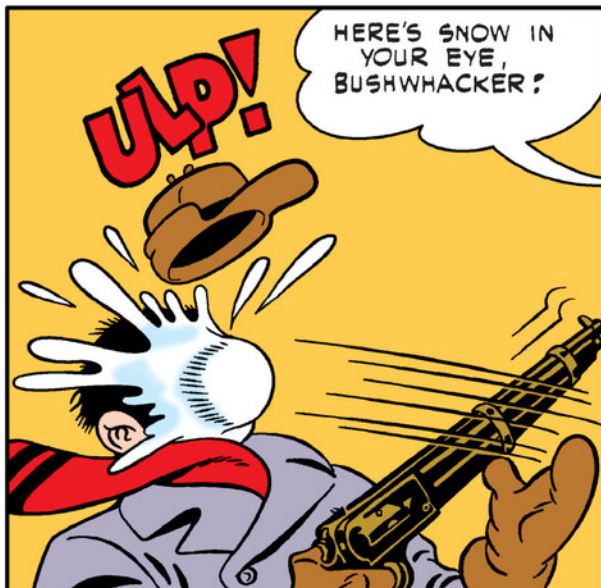
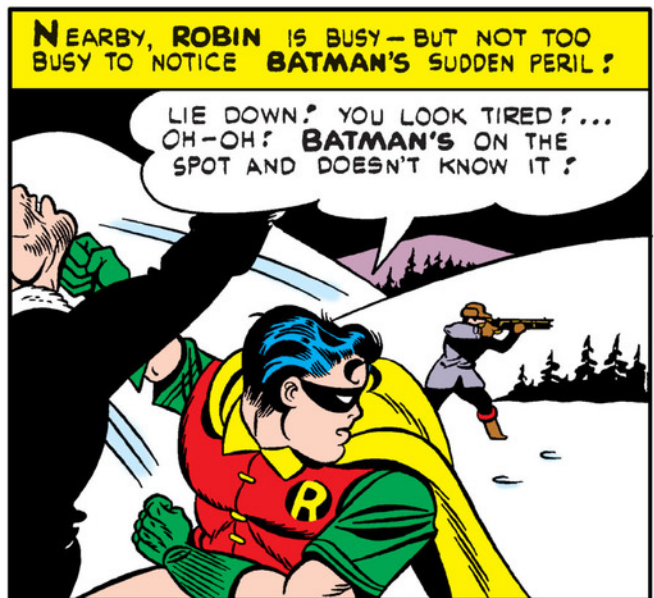


WE'VE GOT HIM OUTNUMBERED, BOYS! LET'S FINISH HIM!



YOU MEAN LIKE THIS?





A SHREWD GUESS, BATMAN! FOR, NOT FAR AWAY, SKINNER SHORT— A NOTORIOUS GANG LEADER FROM THE STATES— CONFERS WITH SOME OF HIS HENCHMEN!

BOY, THIS WAS A GREAT IDEA OF YOURS, SKINNER... COMIN' UP HERE TO PULL JOBS! IT'S BETTER'N CITY STUFF!

NATURALLY! THERE'S NOTHIN' LIKE FRESH AIR AND LOTS OF DOUGH— AND NO **BATMAN** GUMSHOEING AROUND TO MAKE TROUBLE!

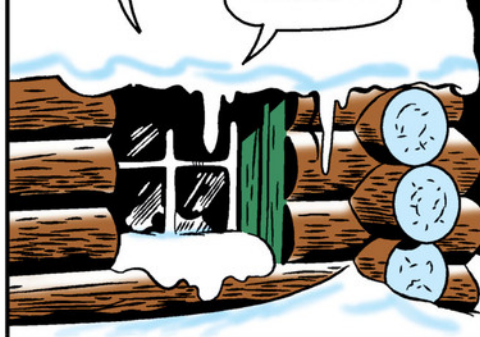


THESE LOCAL YOKELS KNOCK THEMSELVES OUT TRAPPING BEAVERS ALL YEAR— AND ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS JUMP IN WITH OUR MODERN CRIME METHODS AND GRAB OFF THE PELTS!



YEAH! WE CAN GET RICH HERE AND GO BACK TO THE STATES TO SPEND THE COIN!

RICH AIN'T THE WORD FOR THE KINDA JACK WE'RE GONNA TAKE IN! NOW THIS JOB I'M PLANNING, FOR INSTANCE...LISTEN CLOSE...



SHORTLY AFTER, AT ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

MUCH OBLIGED, **BATMAN!** THOSE CROOKS YOU BROUGHT IN MUST BE PART OF THE BIG GANG OF FUR ROBBERS THAT'S PREYING ON THIS TERRITORY!

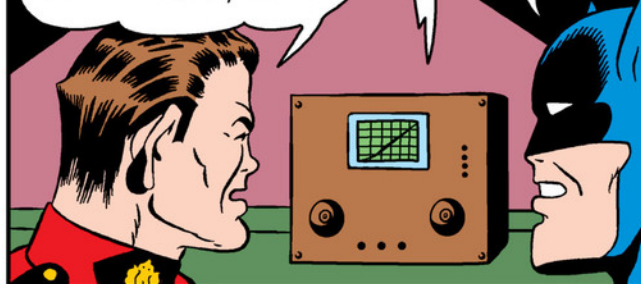
THERE'S A MESSAGE COMING IN OVER THE RADIO, SERGEANT! ANOTHER ROBBERY GOING ON!



A NUMBER OF TRAPPERS TRAVELING TOGETHER FOR SAFETY ARE BEING ATTACKED NEAR APPOMANTIC, WHILE TAKING THEIR FURS TO MARKET! SEND REINFORCEMENTS QUICKLY!

THAT'S THIRTY MILES AWAY! WE'D BETTER HURRY! CARE TO COME ALONG, GENTS?

YOU BET!



THE MOUNTIES USE HORSES, DON'T THEY? THEN HOW'LL THEY GO THIRTY MILES IN TIME TO STOP THAT ROBBERY!

YOU'LL SEE IN A MINUTE!

COME ON, MEN!



MOMENTS LATER...

I GET IT—THE MOUNTIES AREN'T ALWAYS MOUNTED!

RIGHT, **ROBIN!** THEY STILL USE HORSES—BUT THEY ALSO USE EVERY DEVICE KNOWN TO SCIENCE TO COMBAT CRIME!



AT THREE MILES A MINUTE, THE FROZEN ARCTIC WASTELAND SWIFTLY SKIMS BENEATH THEM... AND IN TEN MINUTES...

LOOK AT THAT, BATMAN!

THEY'RE USING AEROSLEDS!

HERE'S ONE WAY TO STOP AN AEROCAR! HEAVE—

HO!

I'LL STOP THEIR PROPELLERS!

THAT DID IT!

SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH NASTY RIFLES! HAND IT OVER!

I'LL HAND IT OVER, BRAT... RIGHT OVER YOUR HEAD!

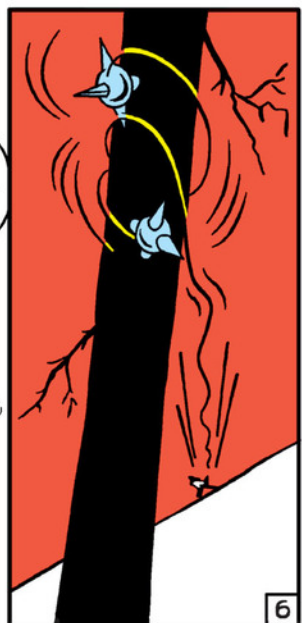
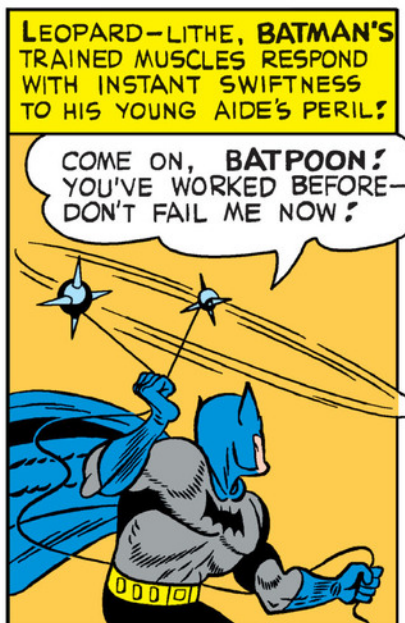
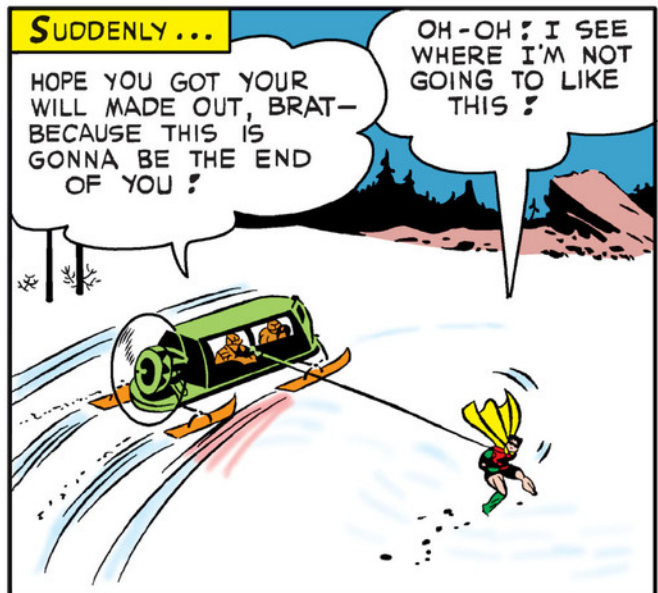
I SAID HAND IT OVER!

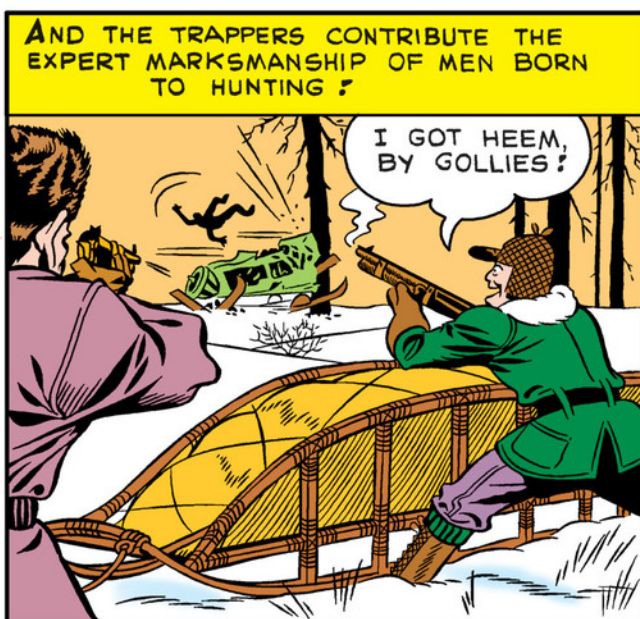
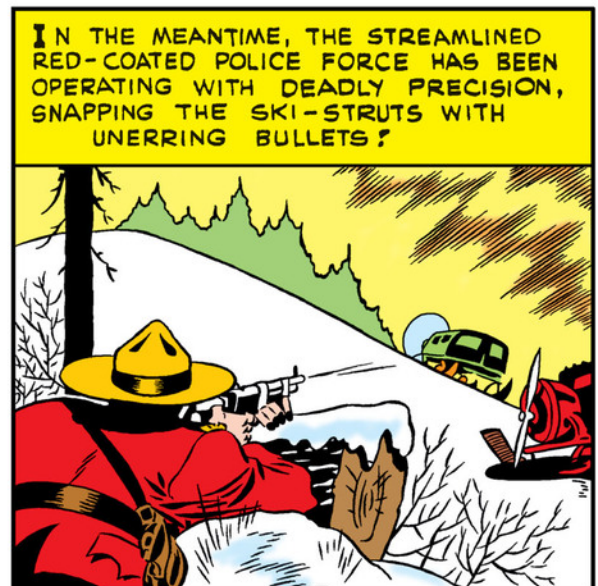
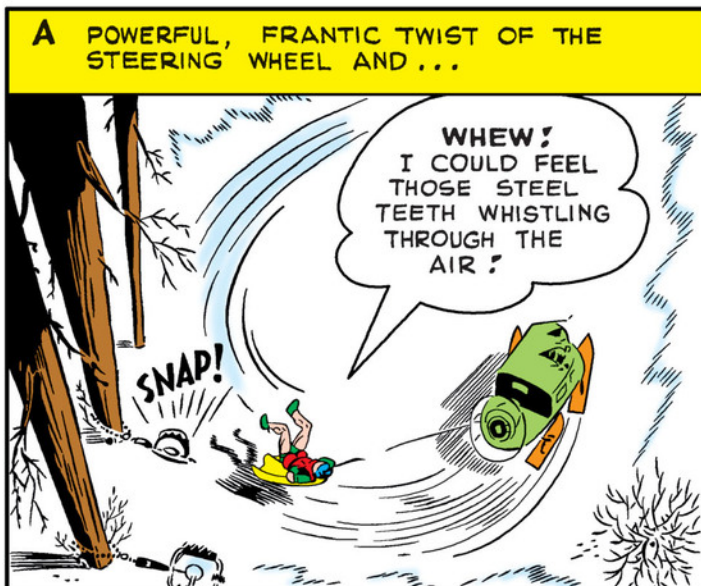
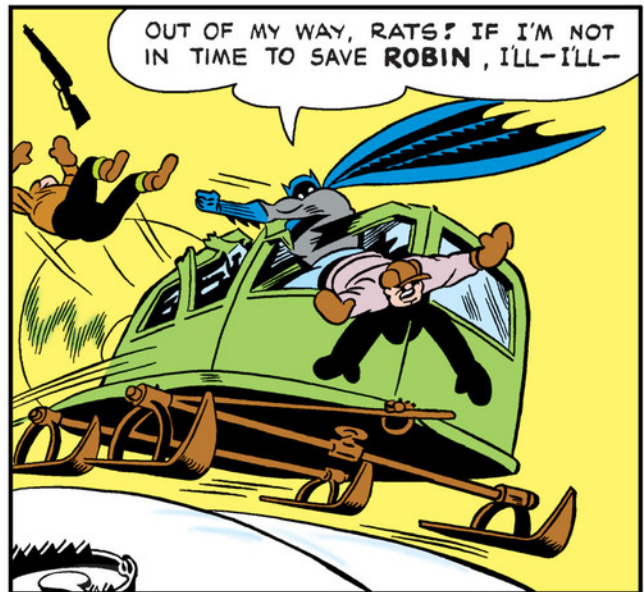
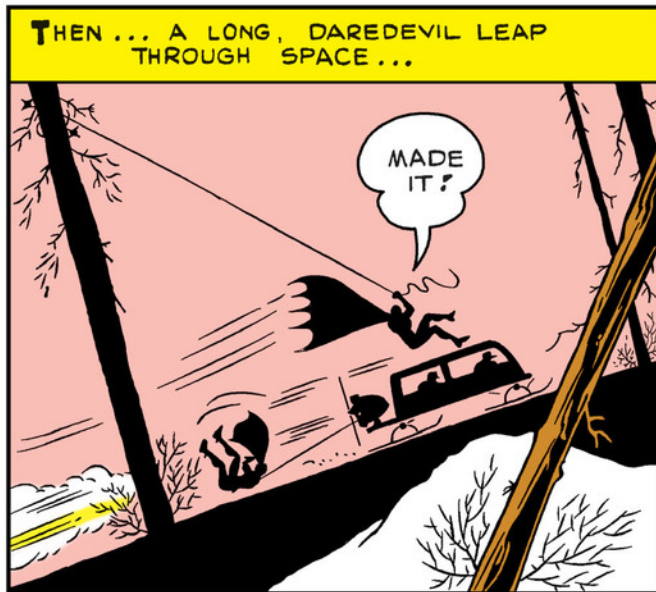
WELL, TAKE IT!

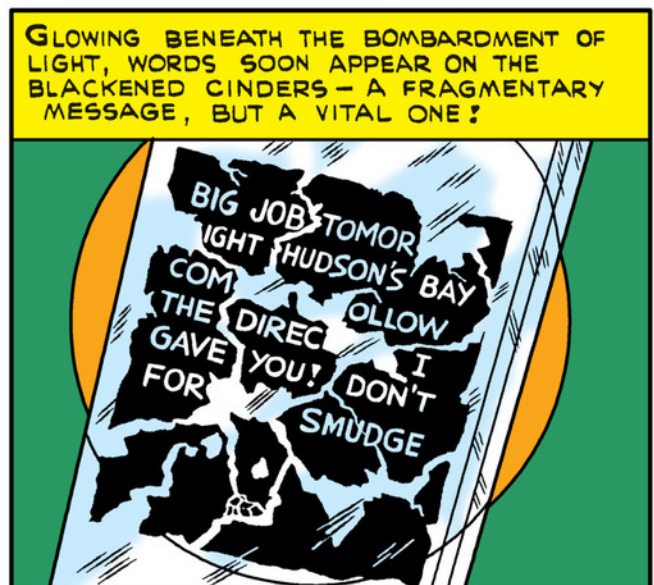
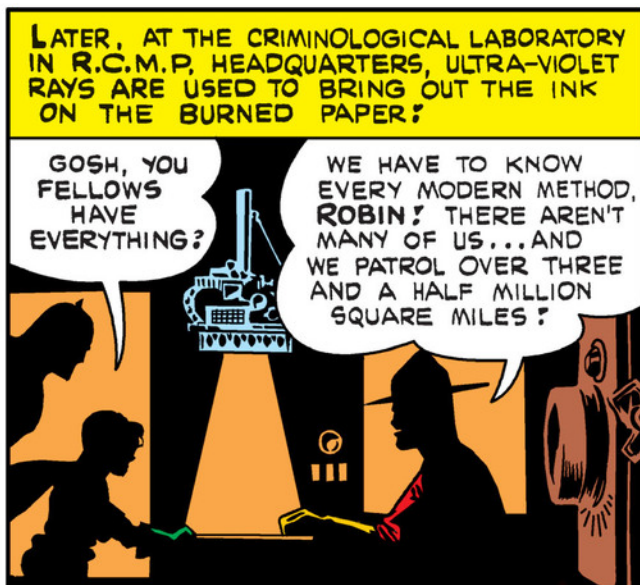
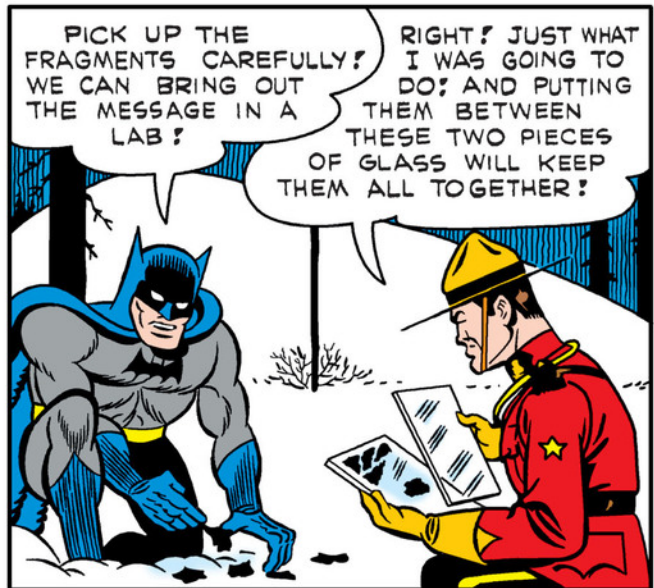
UNNGGHH!

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO BAD LITTLE BOYS WHO GROW UP TO BE BIG BAD CROOKS—THEY FIND THEMSELVES UP TO THEIR EARS IN TROUBLE!

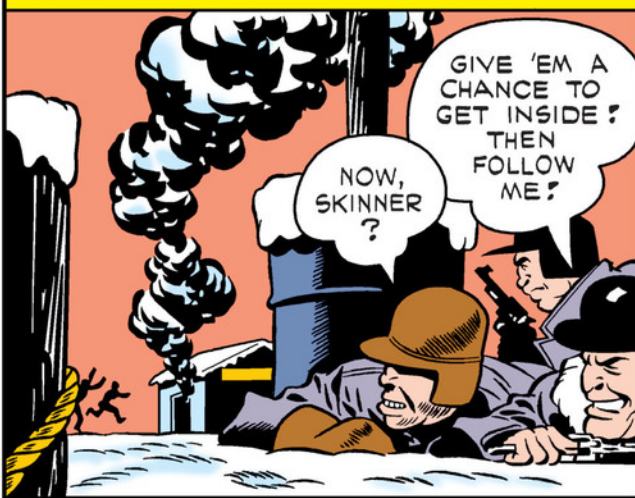
GLUB!







MOMENTS LATER, BILLLOWING CLOUDS OF SMOKE BRING EMPLOYEES OF THE COMPANY RUSHING TO INVESTIGATE?



OKAY, BOSS! THEY'RE LOCKED INSIDE, WHERE THEY CAN'T BOTHER US ANY!

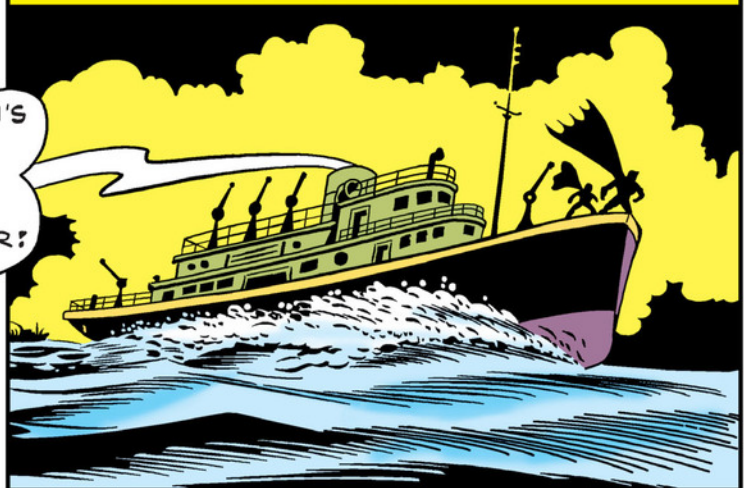
GOOD! NOW WE CAN TAKE OUR TIME STRIPPING THE WAREHOUSES! PRETTY CLEVER, HUH?



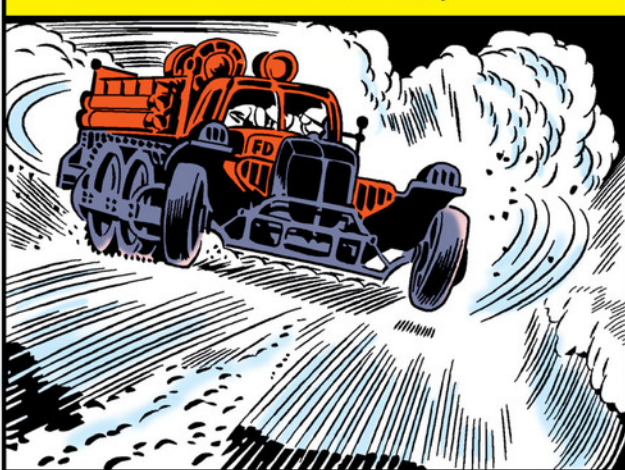
VERY INGENUOUS INDEED, SKINNER! BUT THERE'S A MAN YOU HAVEN'T TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT—A MAN WITH A SCARLET TUNIC IN A LOOKOUT TOWER ON A HILLTOP, SOME MILES AWAY...



TERSE CODE CRACKLES THROUGH THE ETHER... AND IN A SHORT WHILE, FIREBOATS SWARM IN FROM SEAWARD!



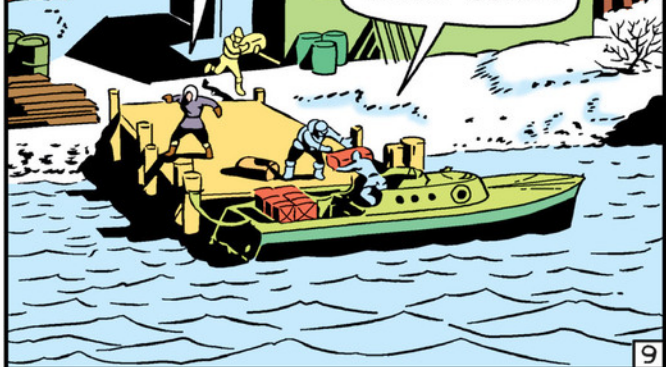
AND ON LAND, HALF-TRACK FIRE TRUCKS RUMBLE UP, SWIFT AND POWERFUL VEHICLES THAT CAN CRASH THROUGH THE THICKEST FORESTS AND DEEPEST SNOW DRIFTS!

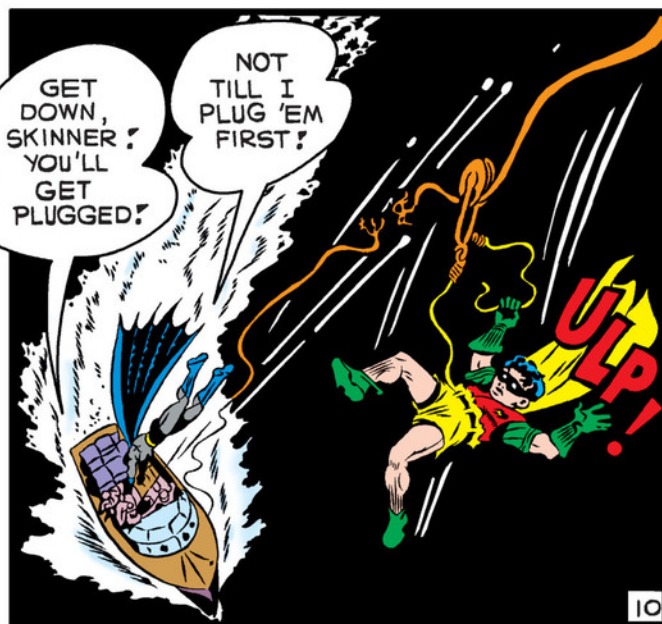
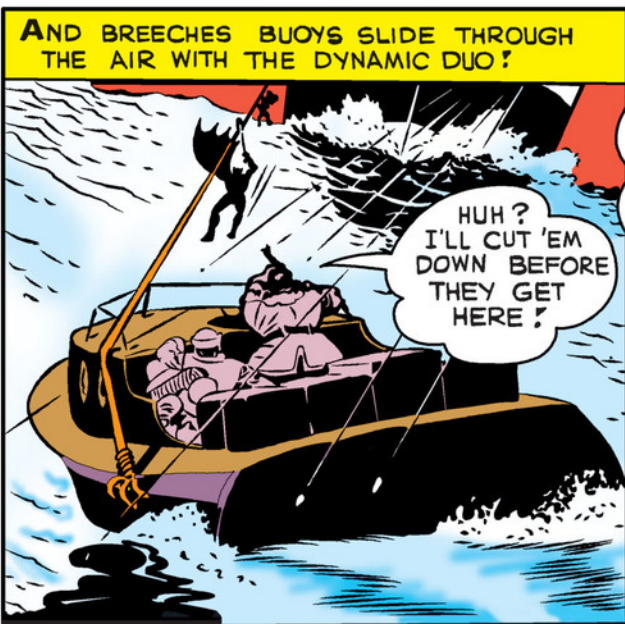
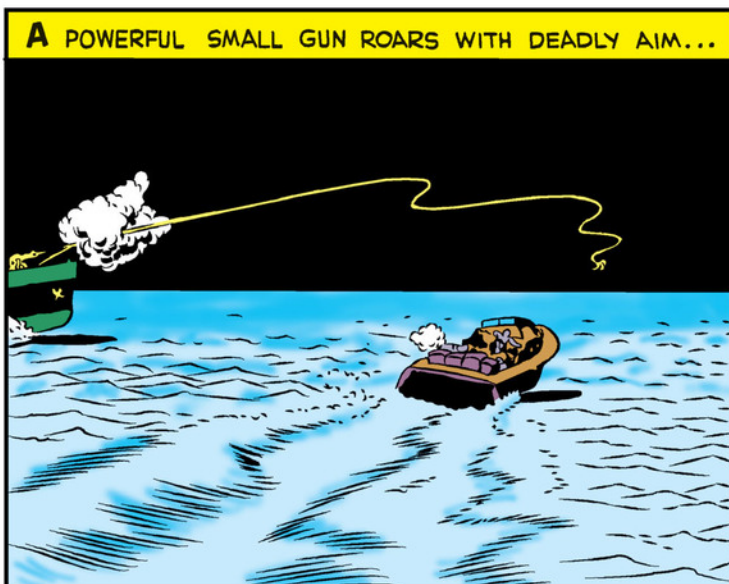
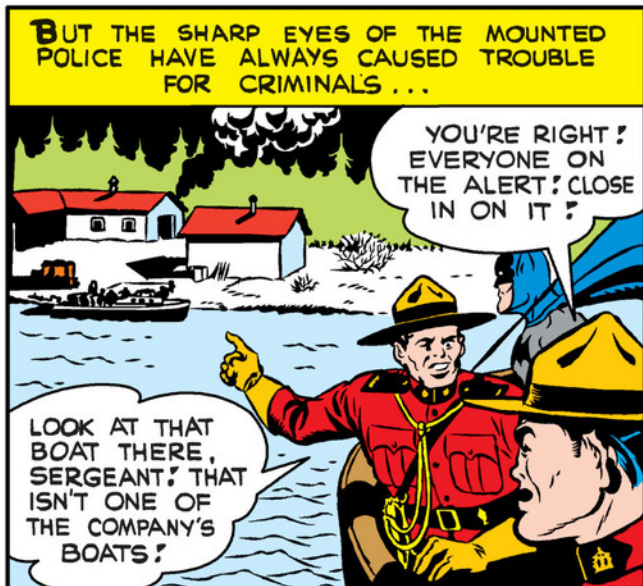


MEANTIME...

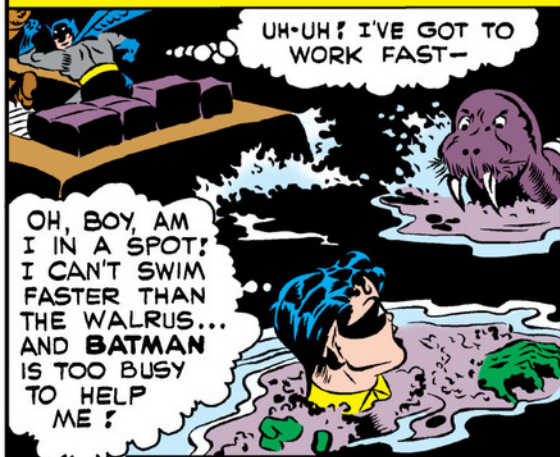
HEY, SKINNER! THE MOUNTIES ARE COMIN' AT US WITH FIRE-BOATS AND TRUCKS!

DON'T LET 'EM SEE US AND EVERY-THING'LL BE OKAY! WHEN WE'RE FINISHED LOADING, WE'LL SKIM OUT OF HERE SO FAST, THEY WON'T EVEN KNOW WE'RE GONE!





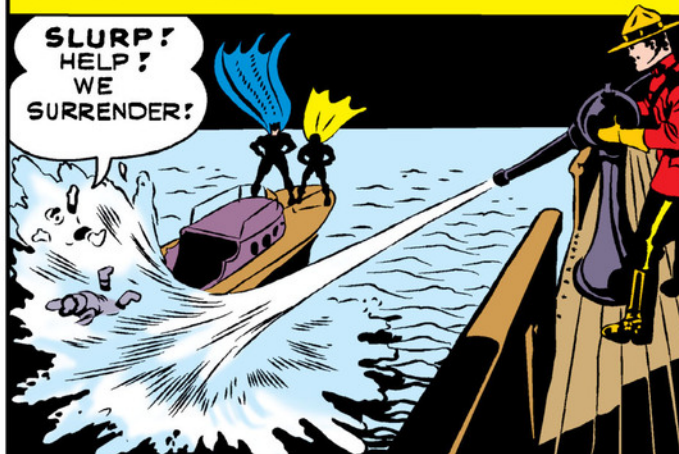
AS THE BOY WONDER HITS THE WATER, THE SPLASH ATTRACTS A RAVENOUS WALRUS, ROAMING THE BAY FOR FOOD...



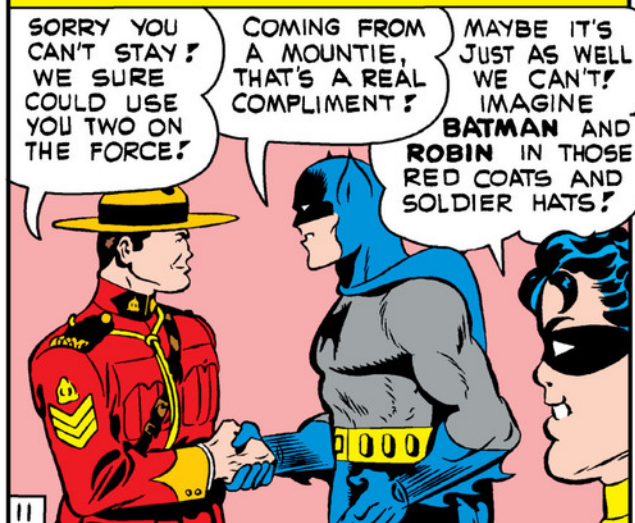
INSTANTS LATER, THE FLEET SPEED-BOAT BEARS DOWN ON THE IMPERILED ROBIN... AND...



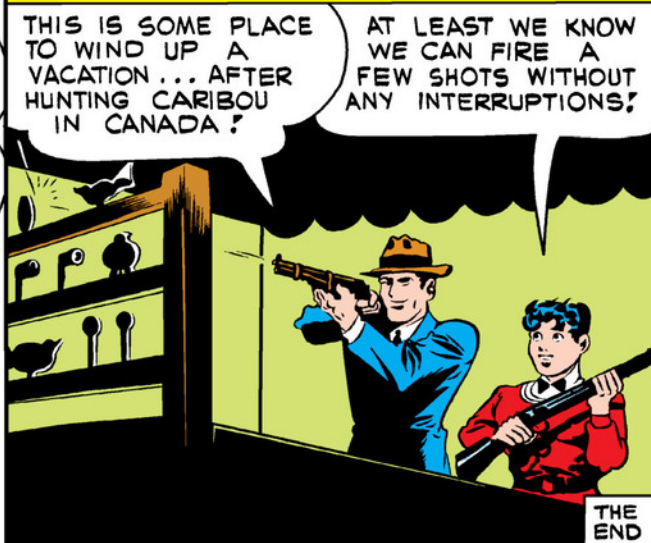
MEANWHILE, THE RESOURCEFUL MOUNTIES—THOUGH HANDICAPPED BY THEIR LUMBERING CRAFT— HAVE FIGURED OUT A WAY TO THOROUGHLY SUBDUCE THE GREEDY PIRATES!



AND SO, LATER, AFTER THE CRIMINALS HAVE BEEN LANDED AND JAILED...



AND PRESENTLY, BACK IN GOTHAM CITY...





No. 88

JUNE...

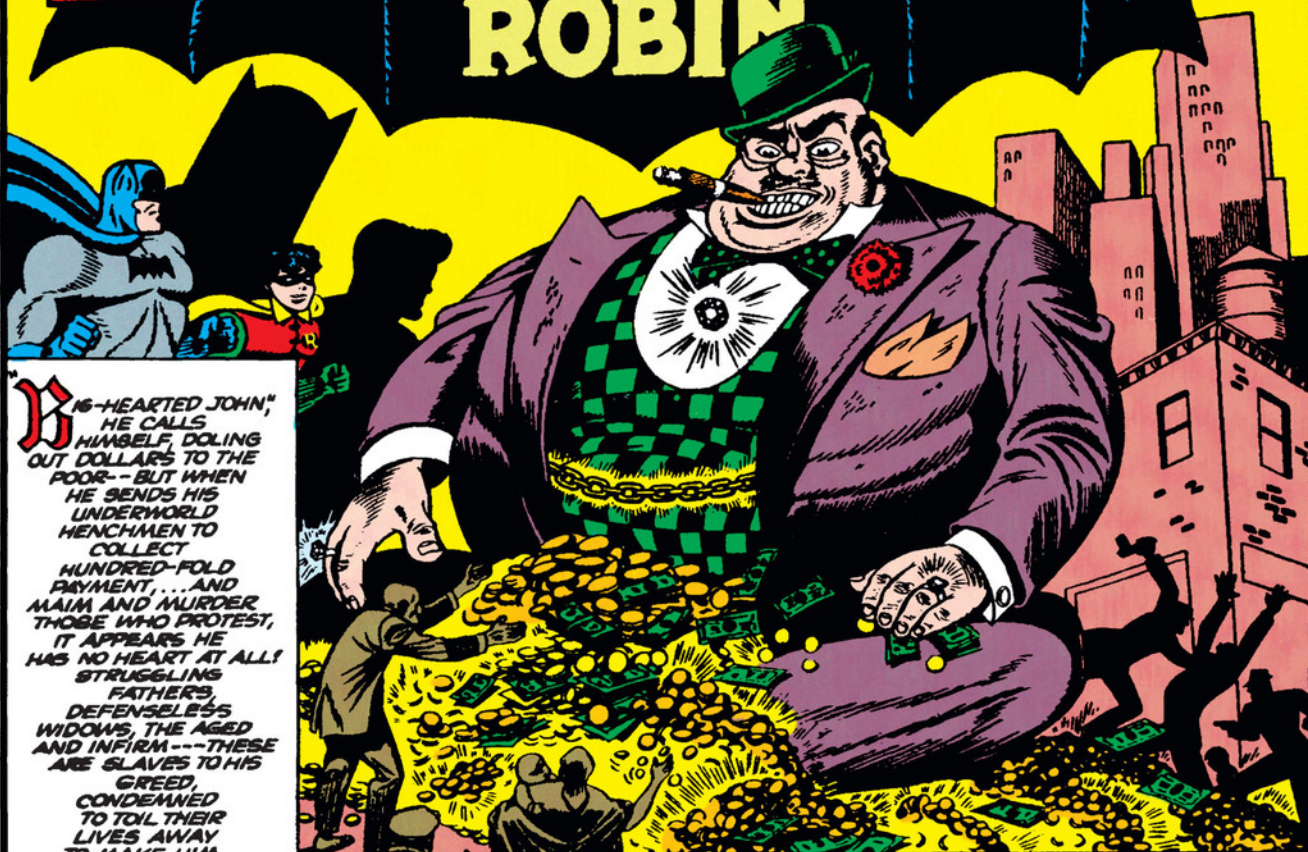


Detective COMICS



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN



BIG-HEARTED JOHN,
HE CALLS
HIMSELF, DOLING
OUT DOLLARS TO THE
POOR-- BUT WHEN
HE SENDS HIS
UNDERWORLD
HENCHMEN TO
COLLECT
HUNDRED-FOLD
PAYMENT, ... AND
MAIM AND MURDER
THOSE WHO PROTEST,
IT APPEARS HE
HAS NO HEART AT ALL!
STRUGGLING
FATHERS,
DEFENSELESS
WIDOWS, THE AGED
AND INFIRM---THESE
ARE SLAVES TO HIS
GREED,
CONDEMNED
TO TOIL THEIR
LIVES AWAY
TO MAKE HIM
RICHER... UNTIL
THOSE MYSTERIOUS
SILENT PARTNERS
OF JUSTICE,
THE BATMAN
AND
ROBIN,
FIT THEIR NIMBLE
WITS AND
MATCHLESS
MUSCLES
AGAINST THE
TERROR
OF --

**"THE
MERCHANTS
OF MISERY!"**

A BLOATED KING OF CROOKED FINANCE HOLDS
A CONFERENCE WITH HIS CONFIDENTIAL
ASSOCIATES...



KELLY WON'T
PAY NO MORE
INTEREST, AN'
I'M AFRAID
HE'LL SQUEAL
TO THE COPS.
WE DON'T WANT
NO MORE TROUBLE...

SO WE RUB
HIM OUT
LIKE WE
DONE TO THE
OTHERS,
EH, BOSS?



SNEERING LAUGHTER ECHOES WHEN THE BORROWER IS OUT OF EAR-SHOT..

HAW, HAW! AIN'T IT A SCREAM, THE WAY THE CHUMPS SIGN AWAY EVERYTHIN' FOR A FEW BUCKS?

THIS IS THE SLICKEST RACKET I WAS EVER IN--- AN' ALMOST LEGAL, TOOT

WE GET OUR DOUGH BACK A HUNDRED TIMES IN INTEREST! THEY SIGN OVER THEIR FURNITURE, SO IF THEY DON'T PAY, WE SMASH IT-- AN' IF THEY SQUAWK, WE BEAT 'EM UP!

AN' IF THEY SQUEAL TO THE LAW, WE PUT 'EM AWAY FOR GOOD... ONLY MOST OF 'EM DON'T DARE TRY IT!

PAYDAY AT THE CONSTRUCTION JOB WHERE GEORGE IS EMPLOYED AS A WATCHMAN...

WON'T BE MUCH LEFT FOR GROCERIES WHEN I FINISH PAYING THE HOSPITAL BILL?

J.B.J. CONSTRUCTION CO. PRESIDENT

KEEP OUT

WE'LL TAKE THIS AS THE FIRST PAYMENT ON THAT LOAN!

BUT--BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT TO PAY IT BACK SO SOON! I'VE GOT TO HAVE THAT MONEY FOR MY FAMILY!

THAT PAPER YOU SIGNED GAVE US THE RIGHT TO COLLECT YOUR PAY... WANT US TO GO TO YOUR BOSS ABOUT IT?

PLEASE DON'T DO THAT-- I'D LOSE MY JOB!

JUST TO SHOW YA WE'RE RIGHT GUYS, HERE'S A DOLLAR FOR YOURSELF!

AND A FEW DAYS LATER...

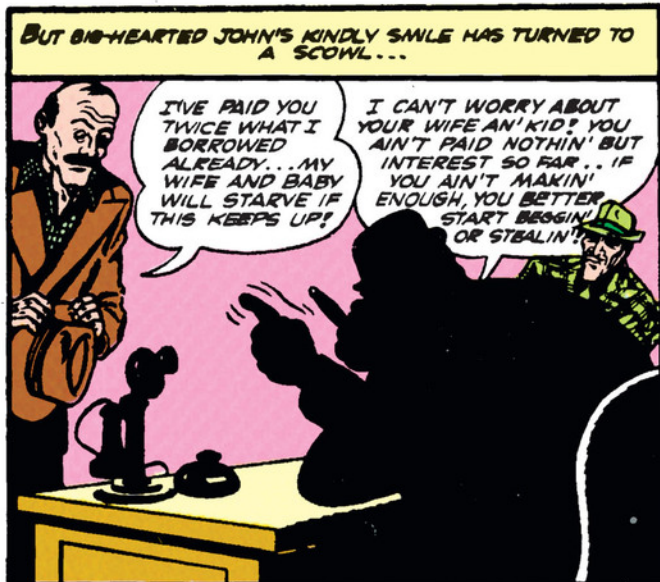
BUT ALL I HAVE IS TWO DOLLARS WE BORROWED FROM A NEIGHBOR FOR FOOD!

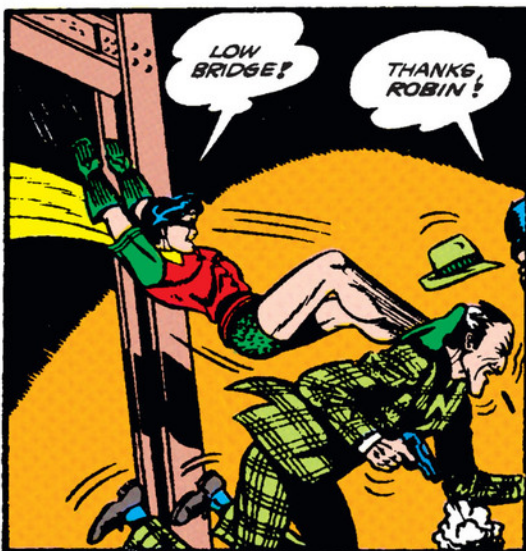
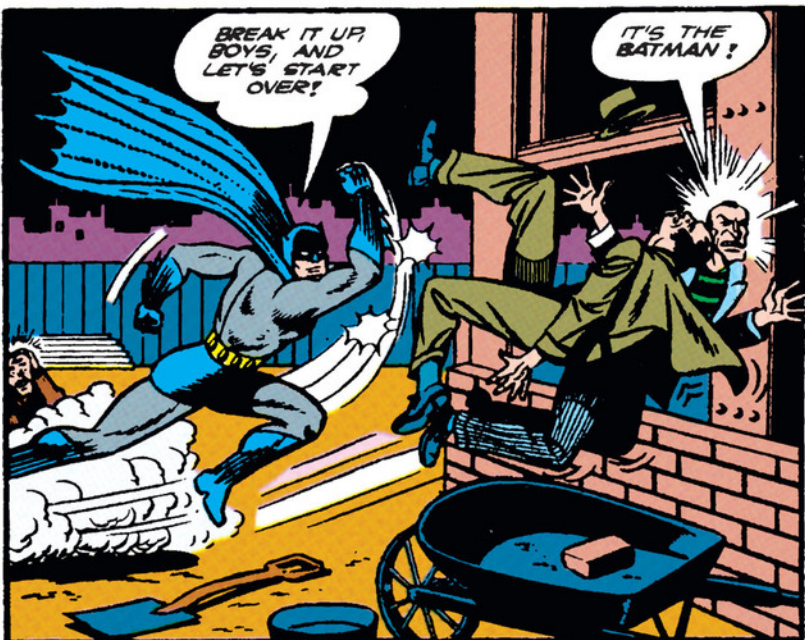
HAND IT OVER, UNLESS YOU WANT A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH O' TROUBLE!

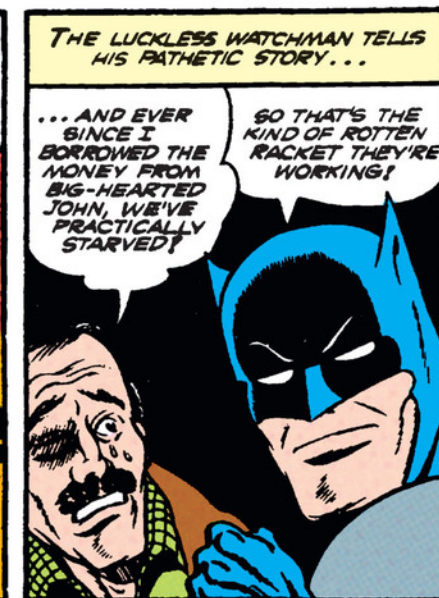
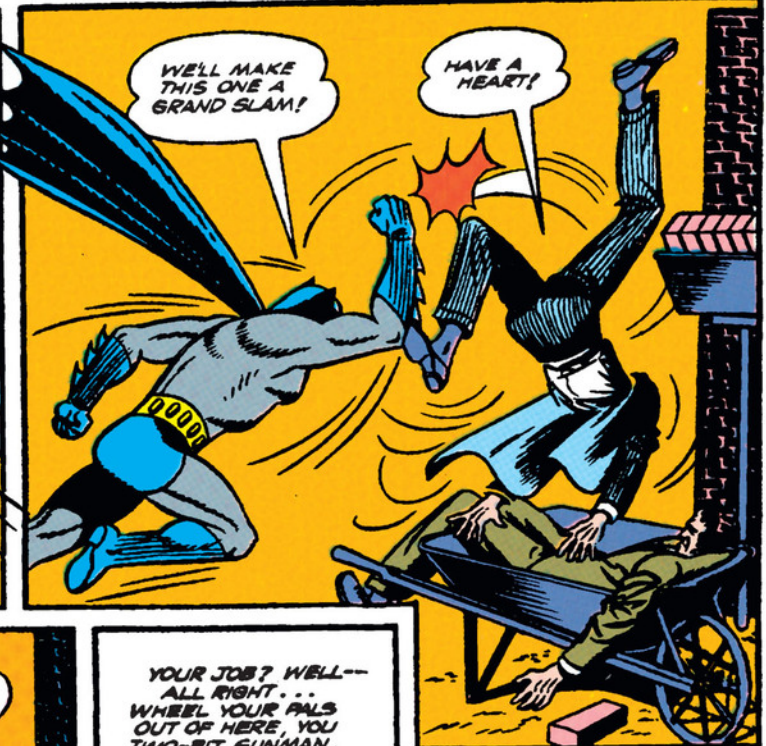
WEEKS LATER...THE CLIMAX...COMES....

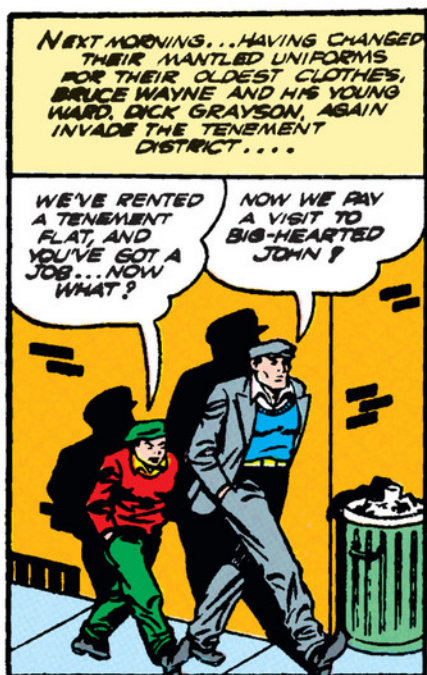
I TELL YOU, I CAN'T PAY A CENT MORE!

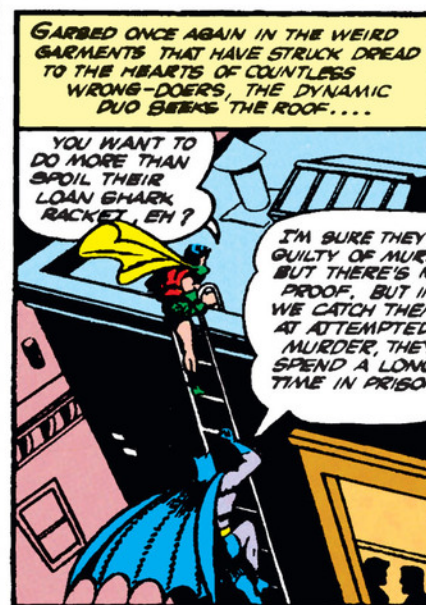
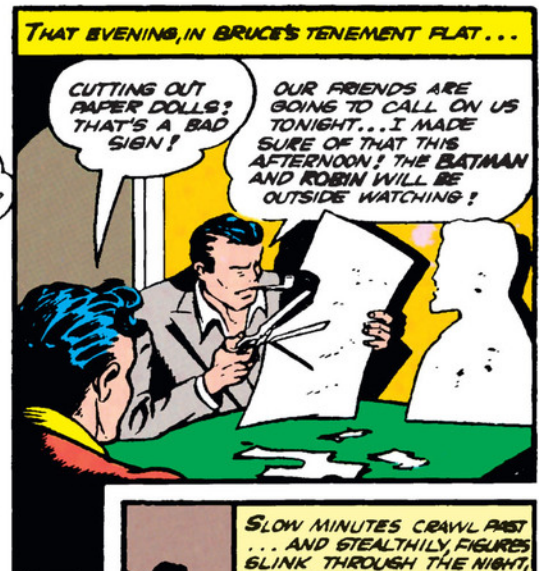
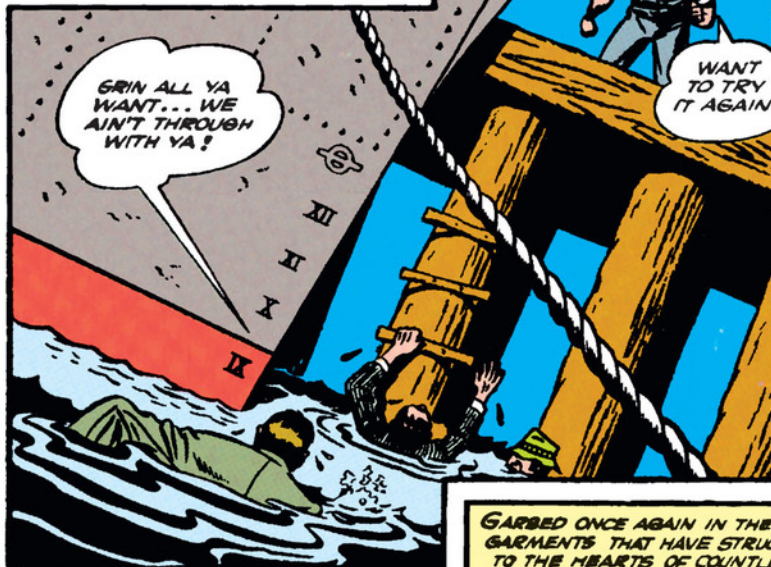
OH YEAH?... YOUR FURNITURE AIN'T WORTH TAKIN', BUT WE CAN BUST IT UP!

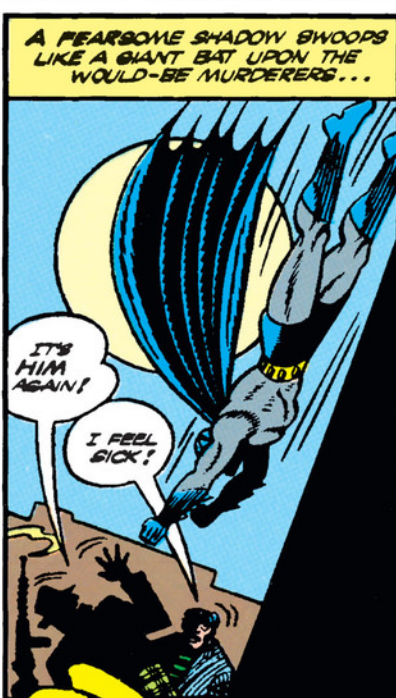
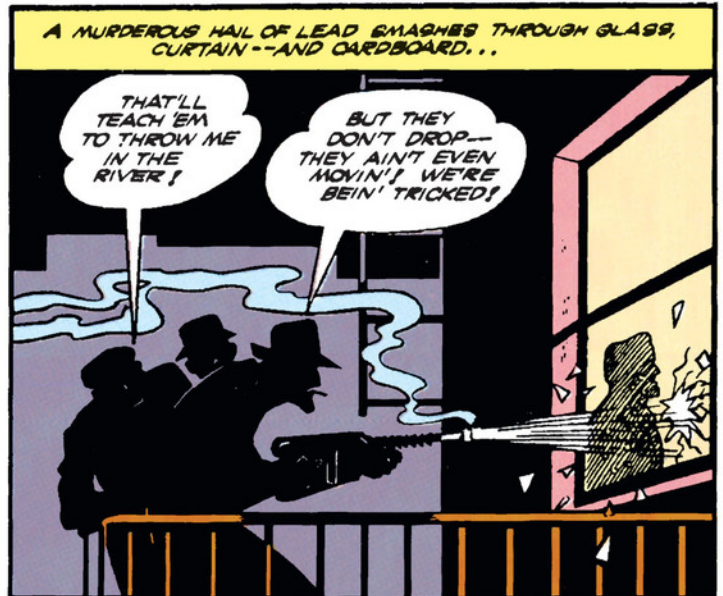






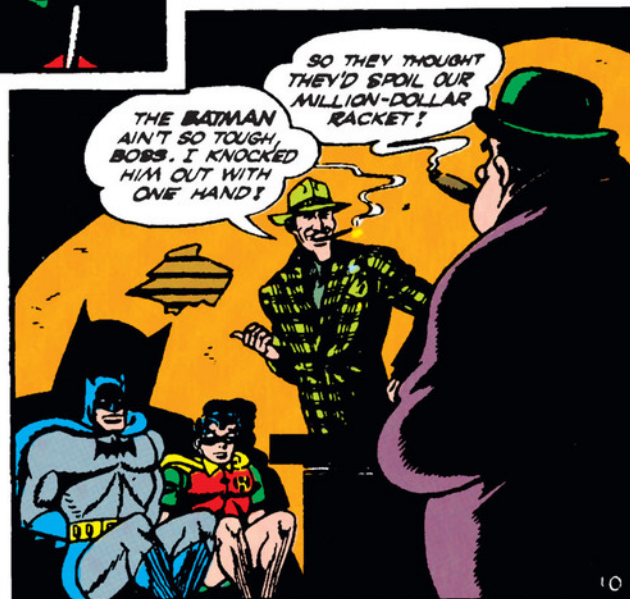
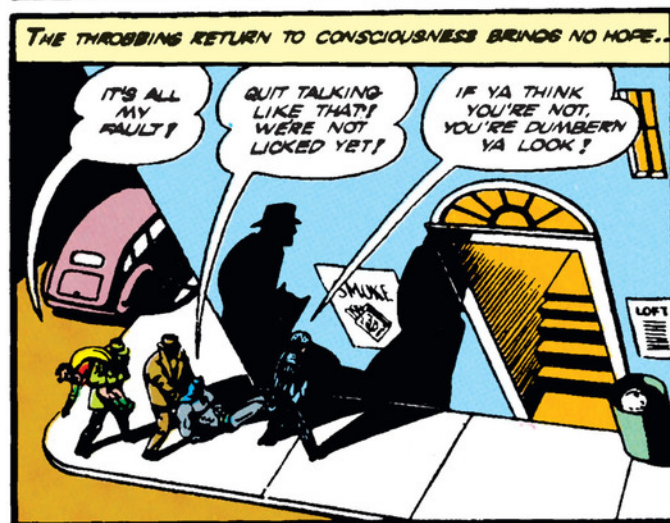
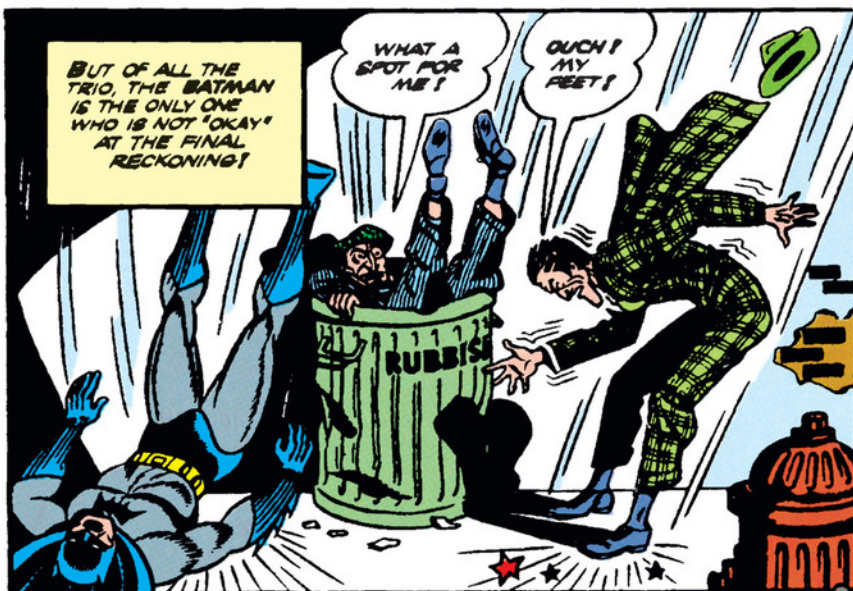


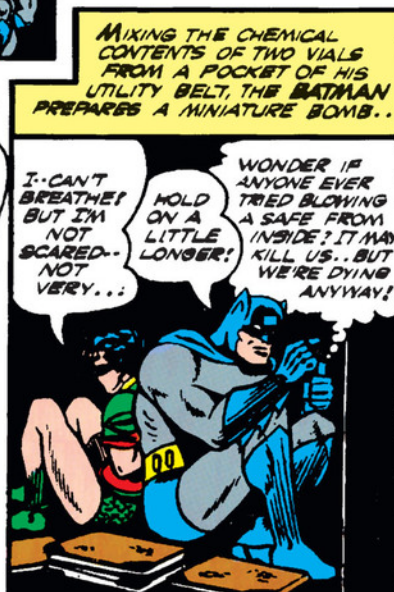
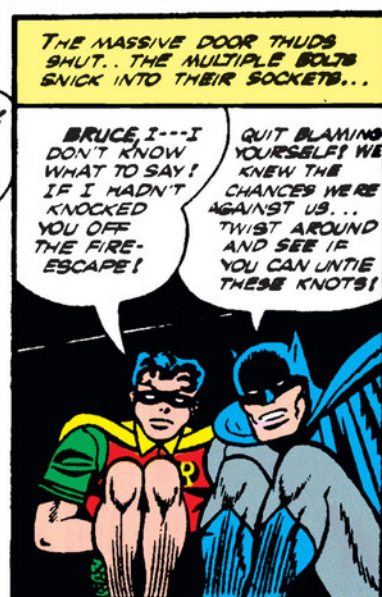
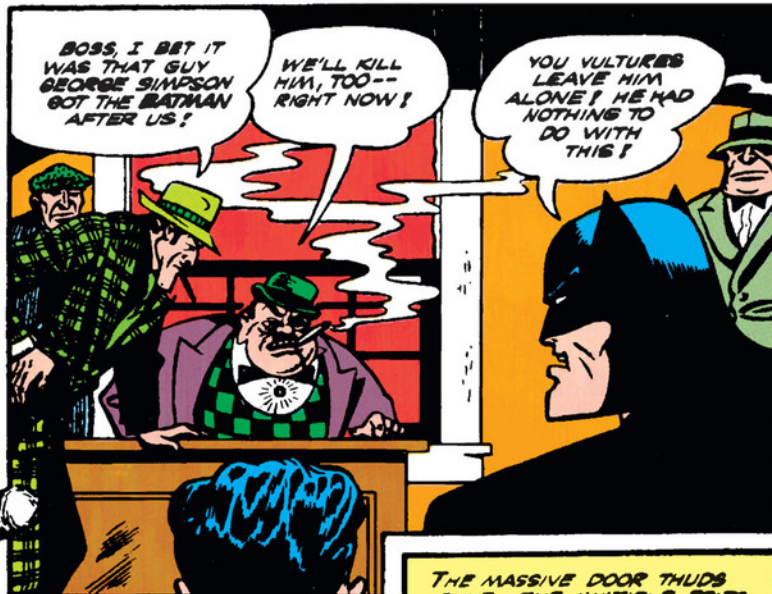




BY AN IRONIC TWIST OF FATE, THE BOY WONDER'S TIMELY ATTACK SAVES BOTH THE BATMAN'S LIFE... AND BRINGS NEW PERIL!



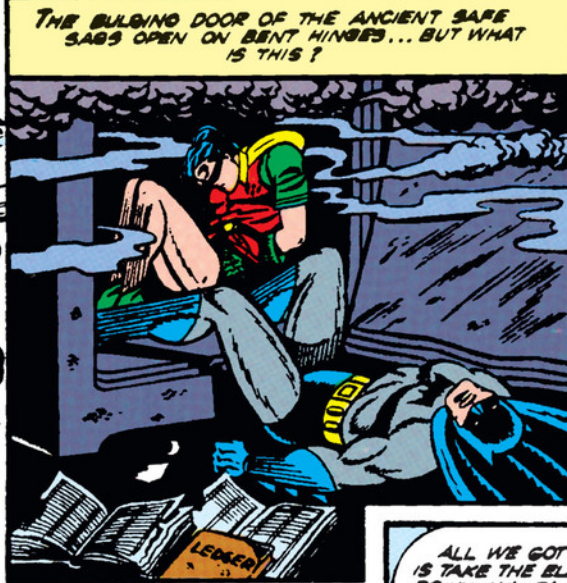




A RIPPING EXPLOSION PACKS THE NARROW VAULT WITH FLAME, THUNDER AND TERRIFIC CONCUSSION...



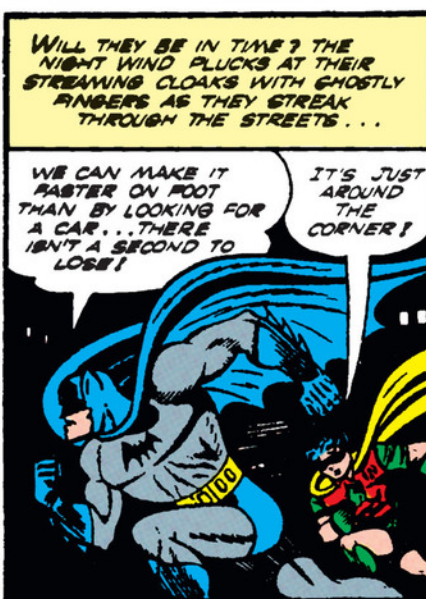
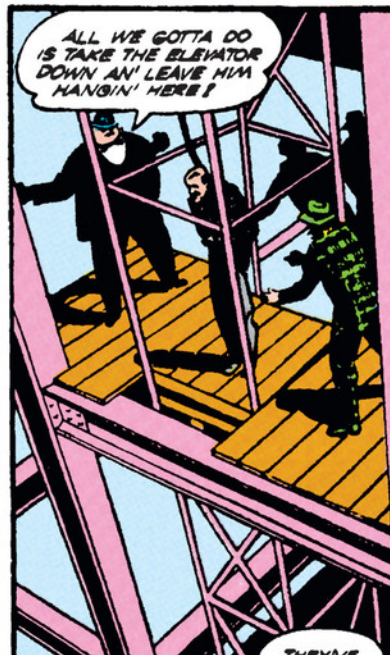
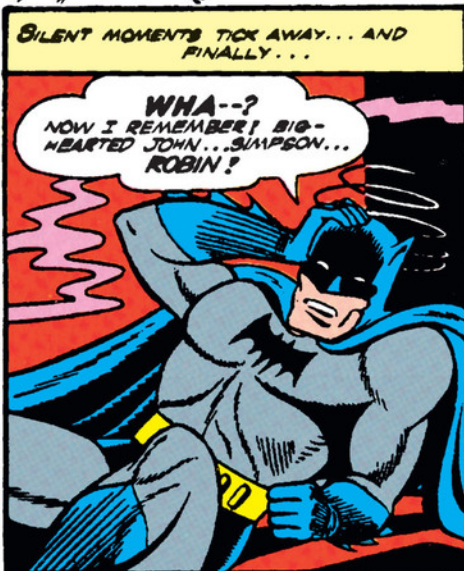
THE BULGING DOOR OF THE ANCIENT SAFE SABS OPEN ON BENT HINGES... BUT WHAT IS THIS?



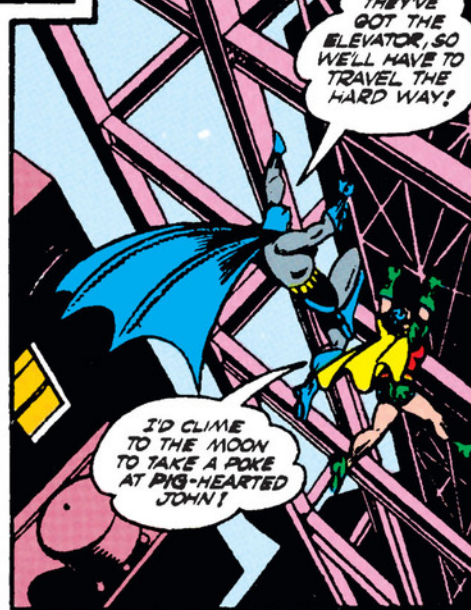
HAS THE ARCH-FOE OF EVIL SUCCEEDED IN BURSTING HIS PRISON, ONLY TO LOSE HIS LIFE ON THE THRESHOLD OF FREEDOM?



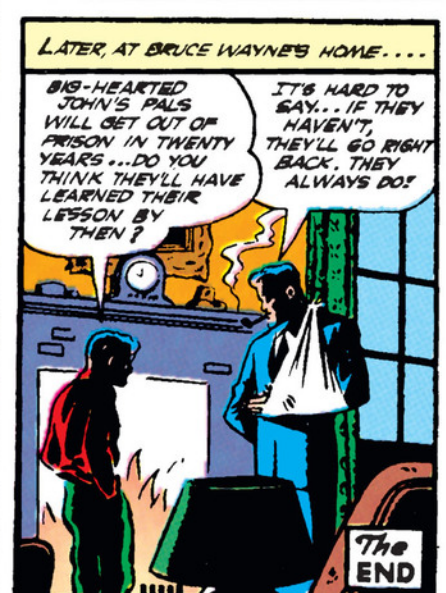
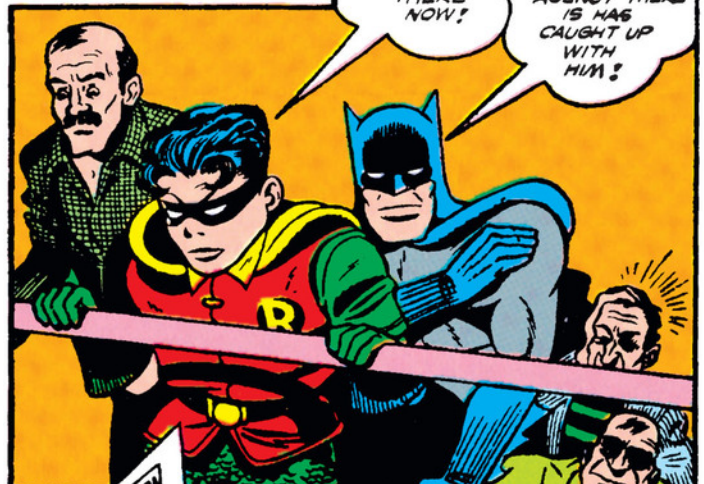
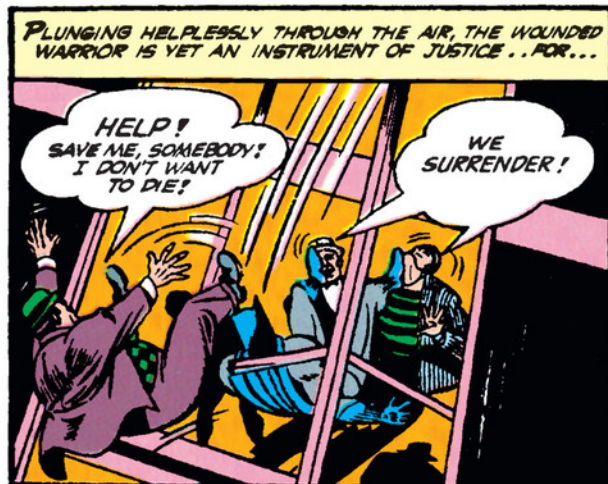
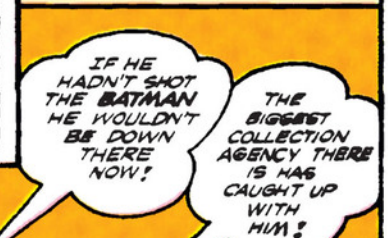
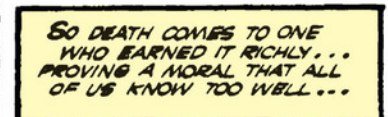
SILENT MOMENTS TICK AWAY... AND FINALLY...



AND AS THEY REACH THE SKELETON BUILDING WHERE SIMPSON'S EMPLOYED...



I'D CLIME TO THE MOON TO TAKE A POKE AT PIG-HEARTED JOHN!





No. 89

BOY COMMANDOS



Detective

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

JULY

COMICS

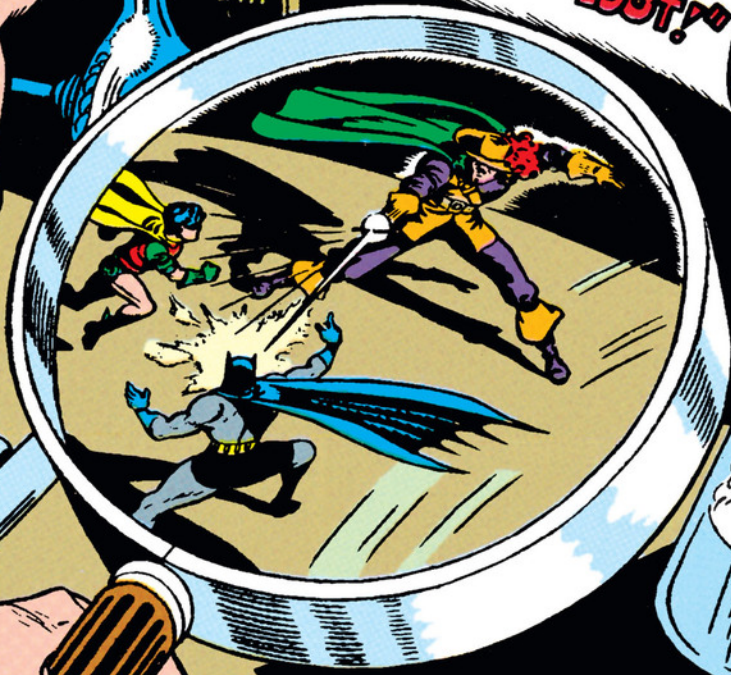


BAT MAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -

WHEN STRANGE BOOTY--
VALUELESS FINANCIALLY--
VANISHES, WHAT WEIRD CRIM-
INAL MUST BE RESPONSIBLE?
RIGHT? THE CAVALIER, THAT
SWAGGERING, SWASHBUCKLING
SCOURGE OF LAW AND ORDER?
THIS TIME OF SCIENCE IS THE
VICTIM OF THE ROMANTIC ROGUE
-- AND HIS CLEVER CRIME PLOT
RUNS LIKE CLOCKWORK...UNTIL
THE BATTLING BATMAN AND
ROBIN SLIP INTO HIGH GEAR
AND ONTO THE TRAIL OF THE
CAVALIER'S...

"LABORATORY LOOT!"

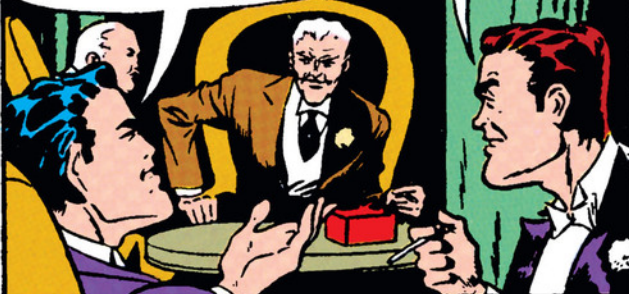


FATE PLAYS MANY PRANKS, BUT NONE AS GRIMLY HUMOROUS AS THIS — TO SEAT TWO SWORN ENEMIES SIDE BY SIDE — BRUCE WAYNE, IN REALITY THE **BATMAN**, AND MORTIMER DRAKE, IN REALITY, THE **CAVALIER**!

HERE THEY BOTH ARE, IN THE EXCLUSIVE SOCIETY CLUB WHERE DR. HELMAR HELSTROM, FAMOUS INVENTOR — MEMBER, HAS DROPPED IN FOR A VISIT...

IT'D BE WONDERFUL TO FEEL YOU'VE DONE AS MUCH AS DR. HELSTROM — BUT RATHER TIRING TO DO IT, EH, DRAKE?

YES, VERY? LIKE YOU, I PREFER TO HAVE FUN, WAYNE?



YOU PLAYBOYS IRRITATE ME? I WOULDN'T TRADE A SINGLE HOUR IN MY LABORATORY, WORKING ON MY INVENTIONS, FOR THE WHOLE OF YOUR LIVES?



NOW, DR. HELSTROM, THAT'S GOING A BIT TOO FAR?

NOT AT ALL, DRAKE? IT WAS FUN FOR ME TO INVENT ONE OF THE EARLIEST SEWING MACHINES AND TYPEWRITERS... WHICH REMINDS ME, THERE'S A LITTLE SECRET I CAN LET YOU IN ON THAT WON'T BE RELEASED UNTIL TOMORROW?

OH-OH?



I HOPE HE DOESN'T BLURT OUT ANYTHING ABOUT THE SECRET WORK HE'S DOING FOR THE GOVERNMENT?

I HAVE FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN BUYING THE WORKING MODEL OF THE TYPEWRITER I INVENTED YEARS AGO! IT SLIPPED OUT OF MY POSSESSION SOMEHOW, AND ALL I HAD WAS ONE OF THE PRODUCTION MODELS!



WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE! I ASKED THE COMMISSIONER TO LET ME HELP PROTECT HELSTROM'S SECRET INVENTION, AND I THOUGHT THE OLD MAN WOULD TALK TOO MUCH!

GOOD NIGHT, GENTLEMEN! TAKE MY ADVICE AND TRY TO BE USEFUL TO HUMANITY!

SOME OTHER TIME, PERHAPS? I'M ENJOYING MYSELF TOO MUCH NOW!



YOU LEAVING EARLY TOO, DRAKE?

YES, WAYNE — BE RIGHT WITH YOU!

WELL, WELL! THIS HAS INDEED BEEN A PROFITABLE EVENING FOR THE CAVALIER!



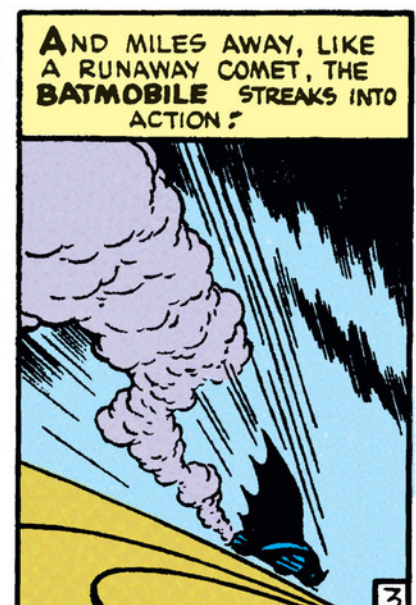
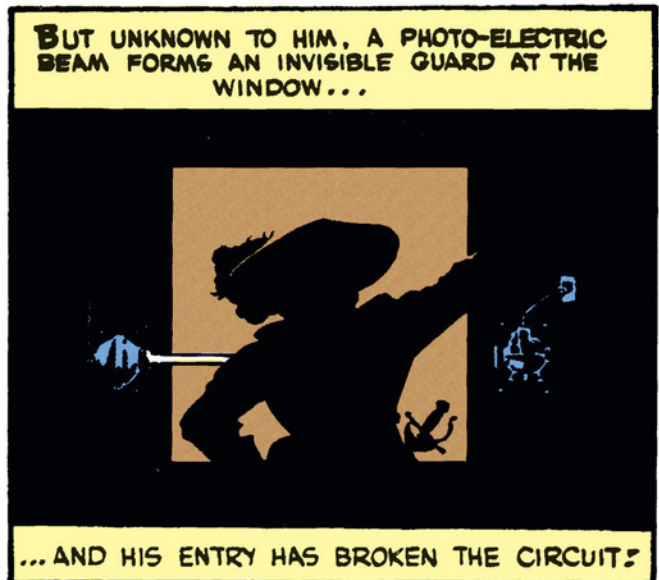
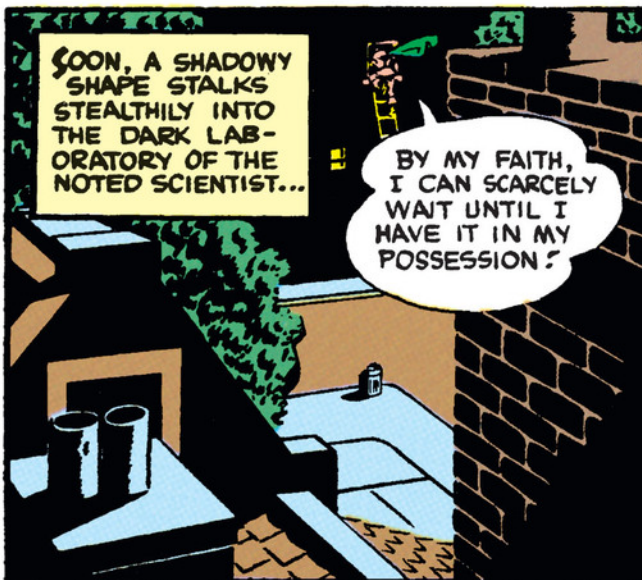
AMUSING CODGER, THAT DR. HELSTROM! BUT RATHER A BORE WITH HIS ETERNAL PRATTLING ABOUT SCIENCE!

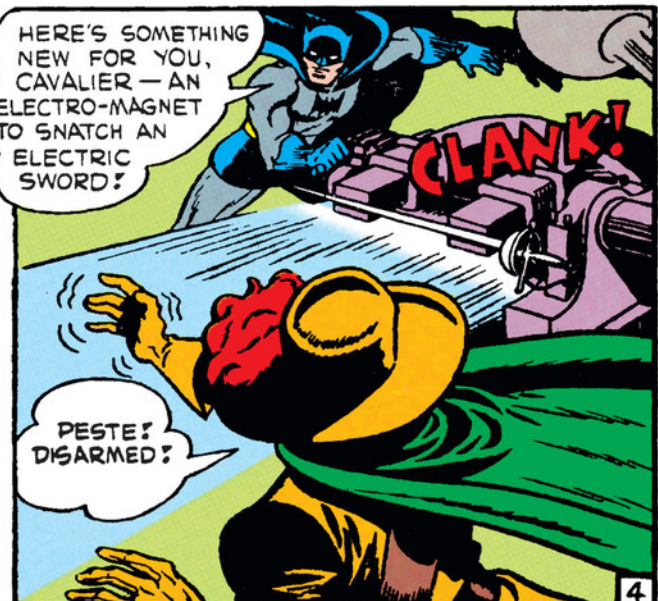
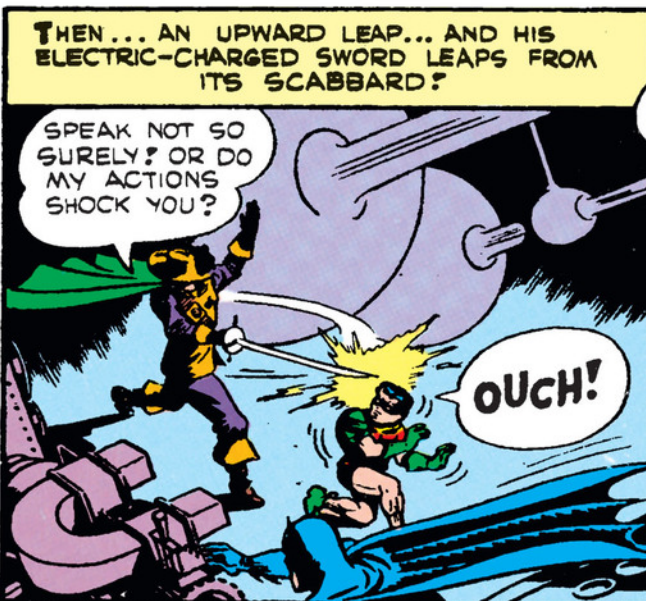
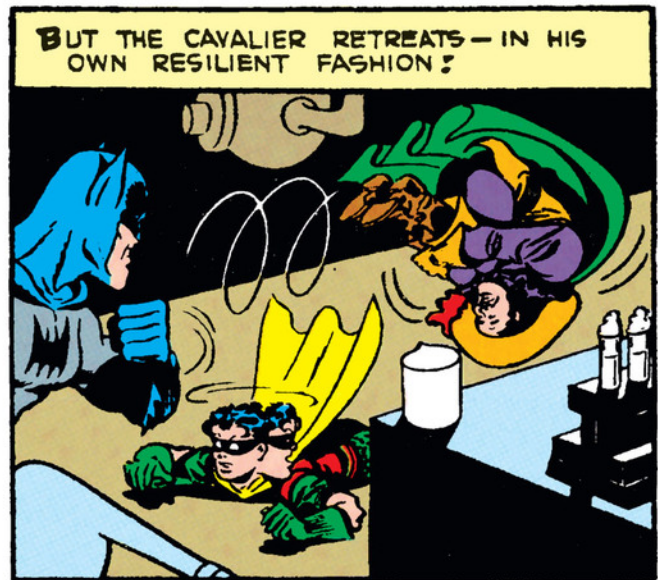
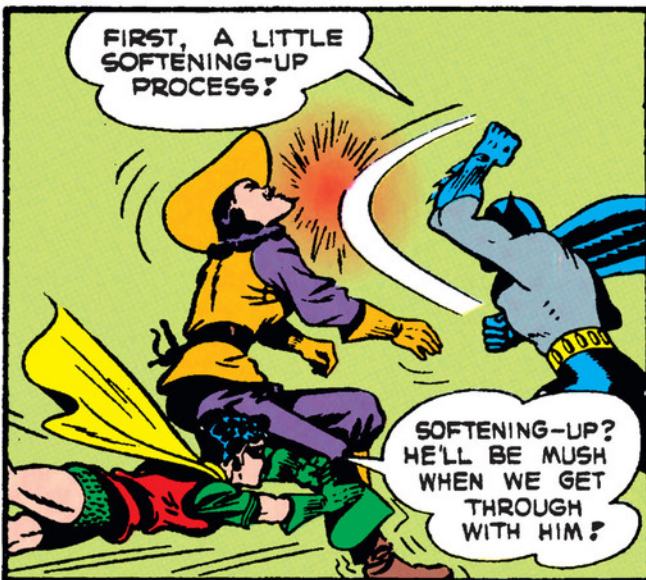
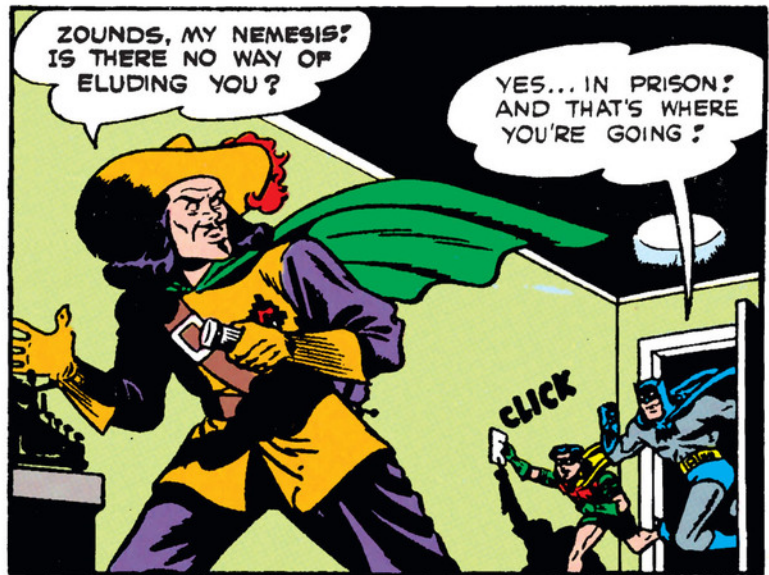
YES, I'M AFRAID HE MADE ME VERY DROWSY! SO I'LL BE HEADING FOR BED! GOOD NIGHT, DRAKE!

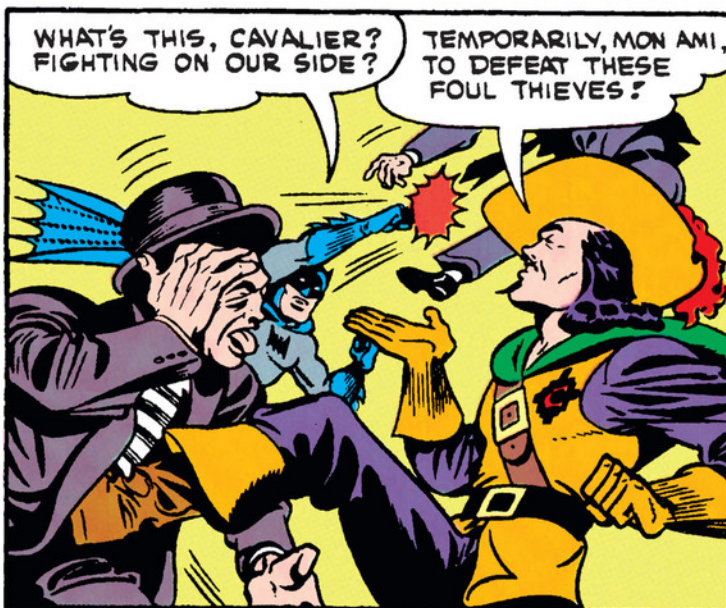
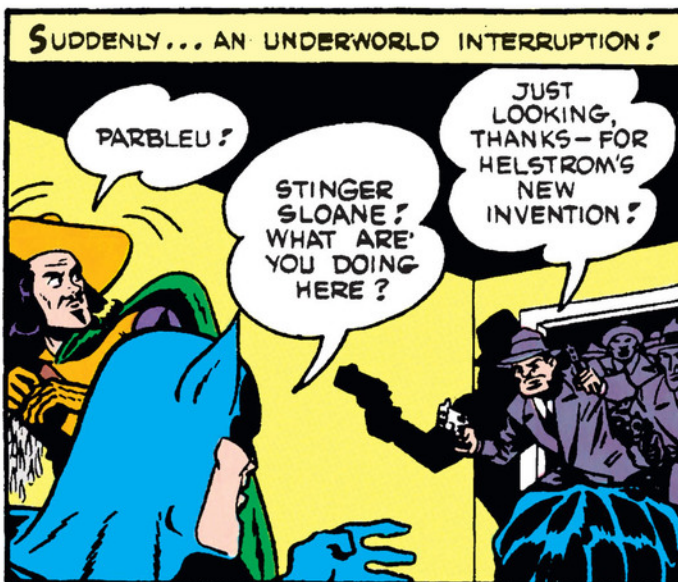
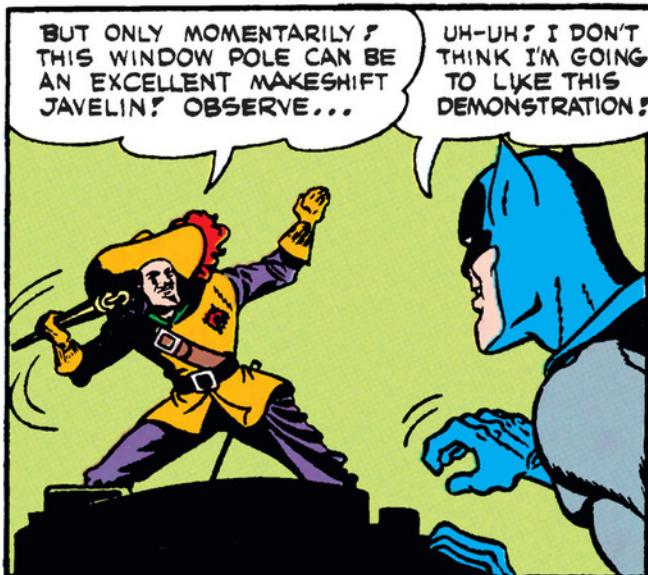


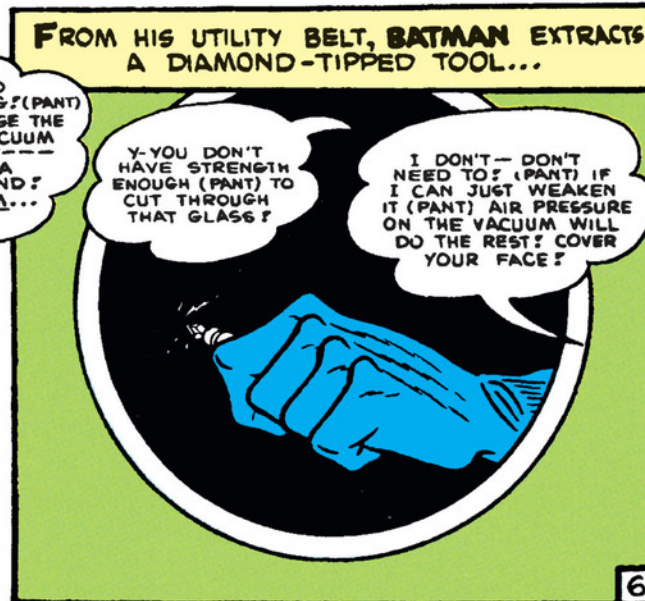
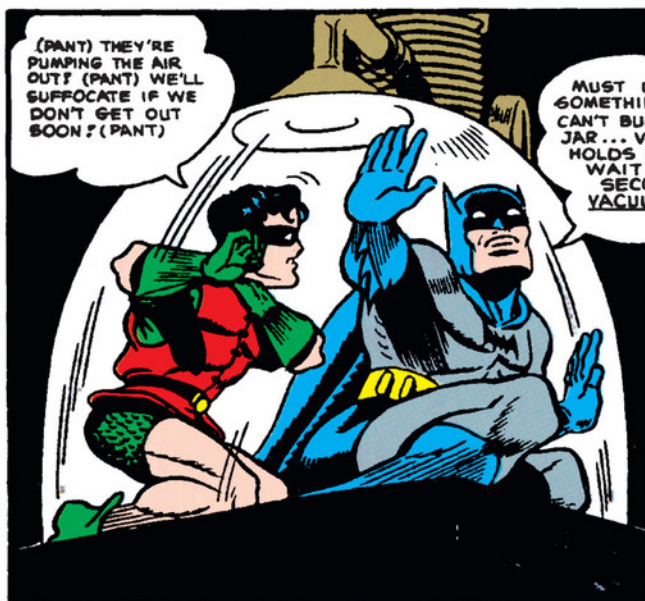
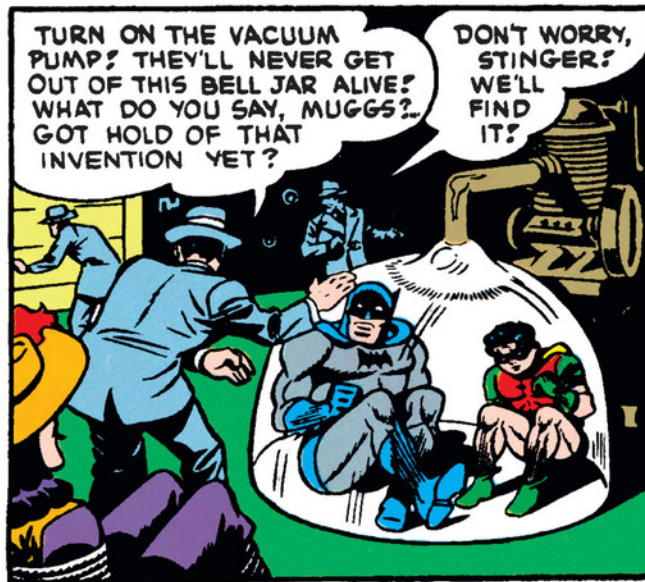
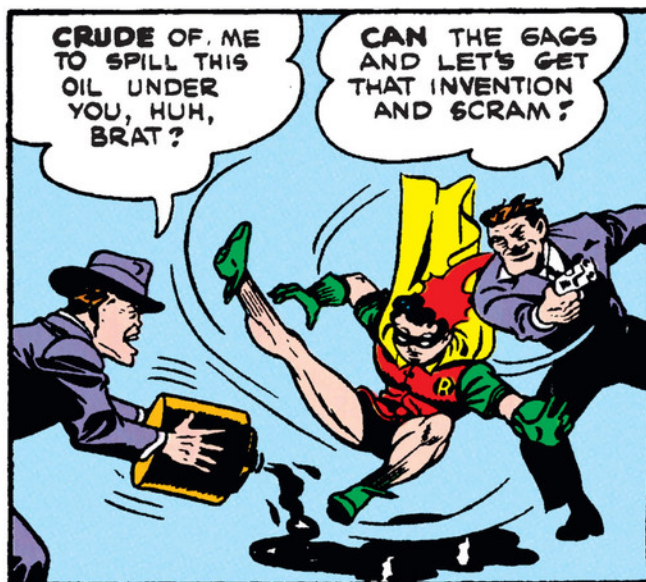
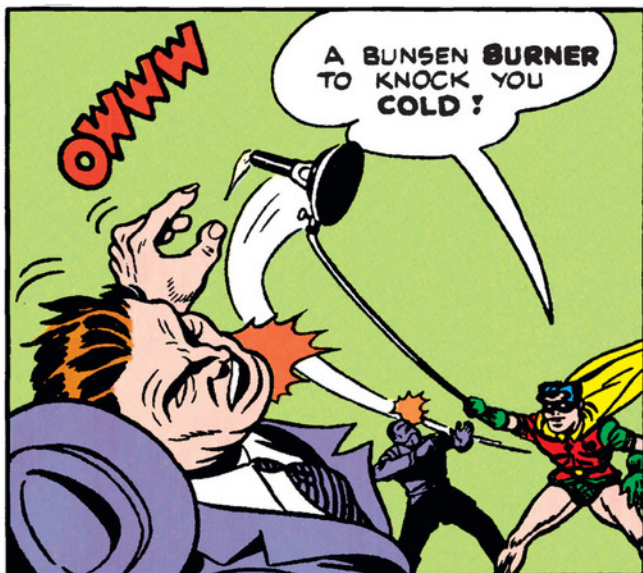
AND SO TWO MORTAL ENEMIES PART... LITTLE SUSPECTING THAT SOON EACH WILL BE LOCKED IN VIOLENT COMBAT WITH THE OTHER — AS THE MIGHTY **BATMAN** AND THE WILY **CAVALIER**!

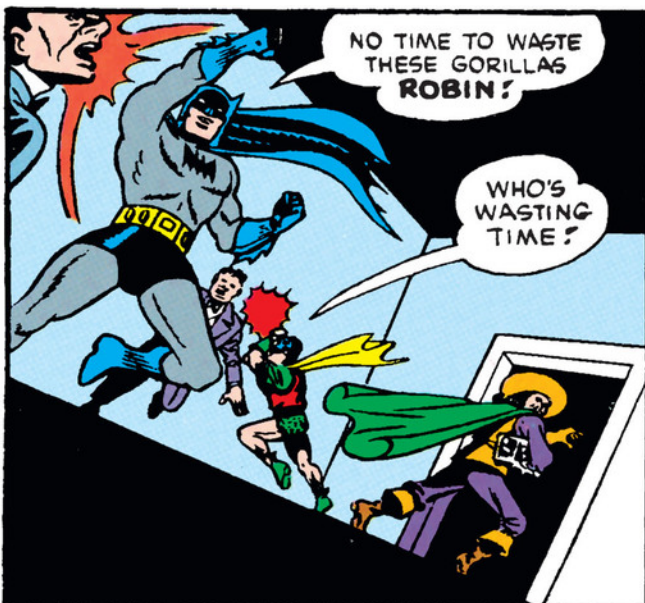
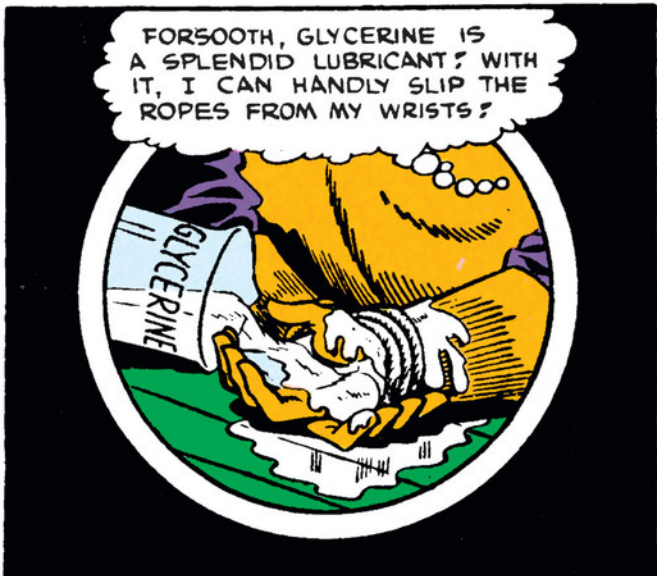
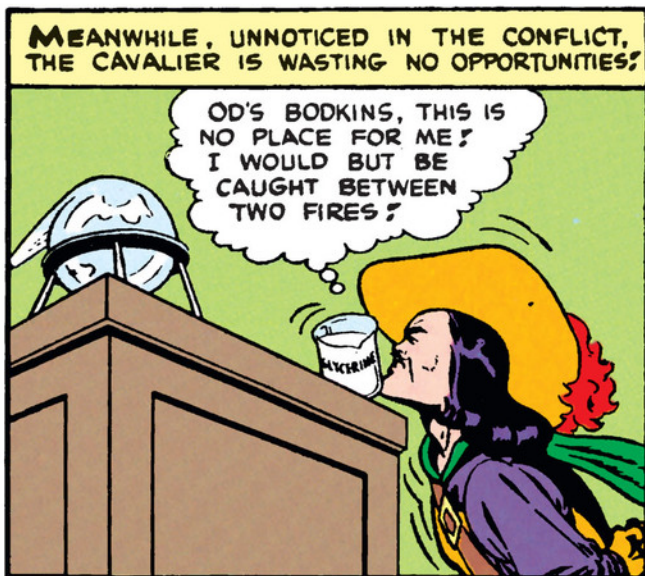
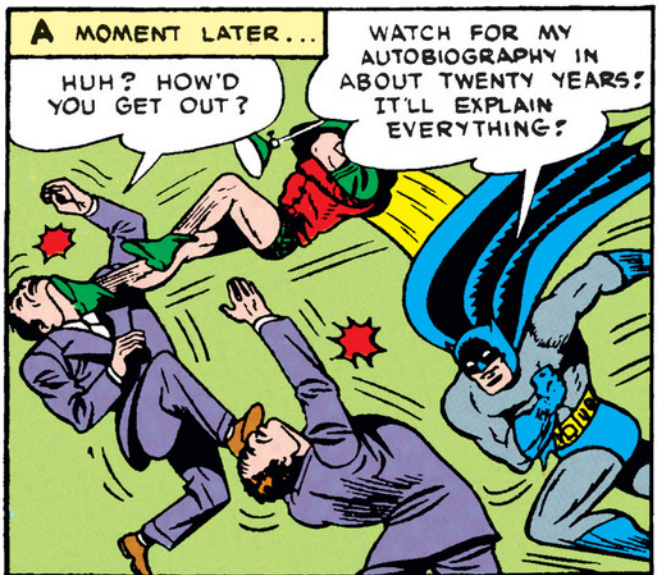
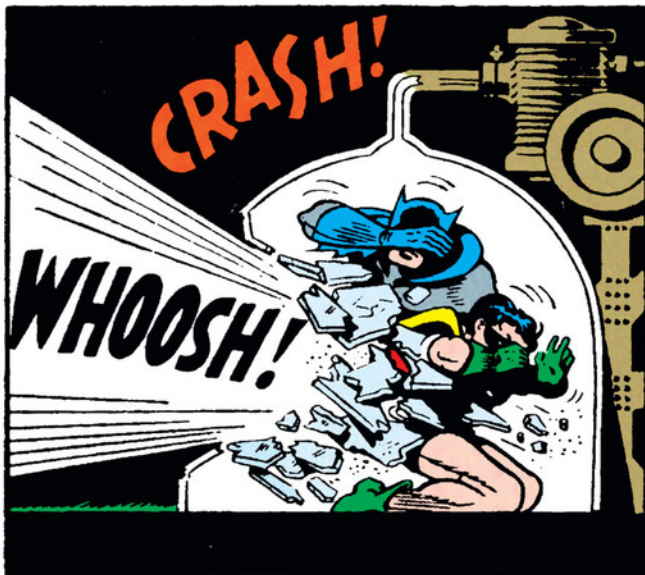
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A SWIFT SUMMONS BRINGS THE POLICE AND DR. HELSTROM?

HEAVENS! THE ONLY THING THAT'S MISSING IS THE WORKING MODEL OF MY EARLY TYPEWRITER! BUT WHY? IT ISN'T WORTH ANYTHING TO ANYBODY BUT ME!

HMM! THIS IS BEGINNING TO TIE UP! SLOANE AND HIS GANG WERE AFTER THE SECRET INVENTION, AND THE CAVALIER MUST HAVE BEEN AFTER THE TYPEWRITER!

HELSTROM MENTIONED GETTING THE WORKING MODEL OF THE TYPEWRITER IN THE CLUB THIS EVENING, AND TOLD US IT WAS A SECRET! AND THE CAVALIER IMMEDIATELY TRIED TO STEAL IT! WHICH MEANS... THAT THE CAVALIER IS SOMEONE WHO BELONGS TO MY OWN CLUB SOMEONE I KNOW!

I HEARD THAT YOU MENTIONED IN YOUR CLUB TONIGHT THAT YOU HAD JUST RECEIVED THE WORKING MODEL! THAT WAS VERY FOOLISH... BUT YOU CAN STILL GET IT BACK, IF YOU DO WHAT I SUGGEST...

ANYTHING, BATMAN! ANYTHING!

AND SO, THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, PLAYBOY BRUCE WAYNE STOPS IN AT HIS CLUB...

IT DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE... THE CAVALIER IS SOMEBODY I KNOW... WHAT'S "WHO'S WHO" DOING OFF ITS SHELF?...

A CLIP HOLDING A PIECE OF PAPER INSIDE... LET'S SEE...

BORN IN SCHOOL IN 1915 THE WAR DATED ING IS

BATMAN, THE... ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS FIGHTERS IN THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF CRIME! HIS TRUE IDENTITY IS A CAREFULLY GUARDED SECRET, NEVER REVEALED TO ANYONE, SO FAR AS IS KNOWN! AMONG

WHO'S WHO 43

Insert after Caldwell, R.W.

CAVALIER, THE... HANDSOME, DASHING, GALLANT, HIS IDENTITY AS CLOSELY GUARDED AS THE BATMAN'S, THE CAVALIER IS DESTINED TO BECOME THAT FAMOUS CRIME-FIGHTER'S MOST DANGEROUS FOE, OUTRANKING EVEN THE JOKER AND THE PENGUIN! THOUGH HIS CAREER HAS NEWLY BEGUN, HE HAS ALREADY MADE IT

THE EGOMANIAC COULDN'T RESIST THE TEMPTATION OF INSERTING HIS BIOGRAPHY IN "WHO'S WHO". I WAS RIGHT! HE IS A MEMBER OF THIS CLUB! BUT WHO?

WHO'S WHO 43

SALUTATIONS, FELLOW LOAFERS! GOOD EVENING, DR. HELSTROM!

HI, BRUCE!

GOOD EVENING, WAYNE!

TO THINK, THE CAVALIER IS ONE OF THEM!

CAREFULLY FOLLOWING THE **BATMAN'S** INSTRUCTIONS, DR. HELSTROM CASUALLY BEGINS TALKING...

QUEER THING HAPPENED LAST NIGHT! REMEMBER MY TELLING YOU ALL ABOUT THE WORKING MODEL OF MY EARLY TYPEWRITER I RECENTLY RECEIVED? WELL, SOMEONE TRIED TO STEAL IT A LITTLE LATER!

MUST WATCH THEIR FACES! ONE MIGHT BETRAY HIMSELF!

SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENED THAT I'M NOT AT LIBERTY TO REVEAL! BUT ABOUT THE TYPEWRITER... THE ONE THAT WAS STOLEN WAS AMONG THE FIRST OFF THE ASSEMBLY LINE! I HADN'T UNPACKED THE REAL MODEL YET AT MY HOME!

THAT WAS LUCKY!

YES, IT CERTAINLY WAS!

NO GO! THE CAVALIER'S TOO CLEVER TO—WHAT'S THAT?

STRANGE, THAT BLUE STAIN ON THE BACK OF THAT HAND! IT COULDN'T HAVE COME FROM WORK—HELSTROM IS THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO USES HIS HANDS AT ALL!

VERY STRANGE! THE CAVALIER MAY HAVE GIVEN HIMSELF AWAY, AT THAT!

LATER, AT THE WAYNE RESIDENCE...

SO YOUR LITTLE STUNT DIDN'T BRING HIM OUT IN THE OPEN, EH?

NO! BUT NOW THAT HE THINKS HE GOT A TYPEWRITER THAT ONLY CAME OFF THE LINE, HE'S SURE TO GO BACK FOR THE ONE HE BELIEVES IS THE REAL MODEL!

AND THAT BLUE STAIN ON THE BACK OF THAT HAND—MAYBE WE'RE CLOSER TO KNOWING WHO THE CAVALIER IS THAN WE THINK!

REMEMBER THAT BOTTLE YOU THREW AT HIM? IT BROKE AND SPILLED ALL OVER HIS GLOVE! IF THAT STUFF COULD SOAK THROUGH AND STAIN SKIN... THEN THE MAN WITH THE STAINED HAND IS THE CAVALIER!

GOLLY! LET'S ASK DR. HELSTROM AND MAKE SURE!

SOON, IN THE AGED SCIENTIST'S HOME...

DR. HELSTROM, ROBIN SMASHED A CHEMICAL BOTTLE IN YOUR LABORATORY LAST NIGHT? DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT IT CONTAINED?

WHY, YES! POTASSIUM FERROCYANIDE IN AN IRON CHLORIDE SOLUTION! I HAD A TERRIBLE TIME CLEANING IT UP! IT'S A VERY POWERFUL BLUE DYE, YOU KNOW!

THEN I WAS RIGHT! THAT STAIN WAS THE COLOR PRODUCED BY THE SOLUTION IN THAT BOTTLE!

WHO IS HE? QUICK!

YOU'LL SEE IN A LITTLE WHILE! HE'LL BE HERE SOON TO GRAB WHAT HE THINKS IS THE GENUINE WORKING-MODEL!... AND YOU'D BETTER STAY IN SOME SAFE PLACE, DR. HELSTROM! THERE'S GOING TO BE FIREWORKS IN THIS ROOM!

I CAN'T WAIT!

THE MINUTES MOVE SLOWLY PAST AS THE CAPED FIGURES WAIT IN DARKNESS! AND THEN, FURTIVELY...

TONNERRE! A BITTER PILL INDEED... TWO ROBBERIES TO ATTAIN A SINGLE ITEM!

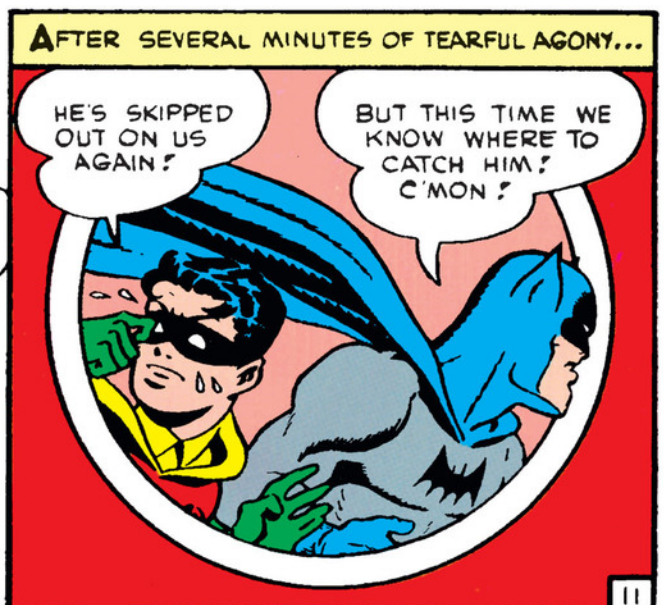
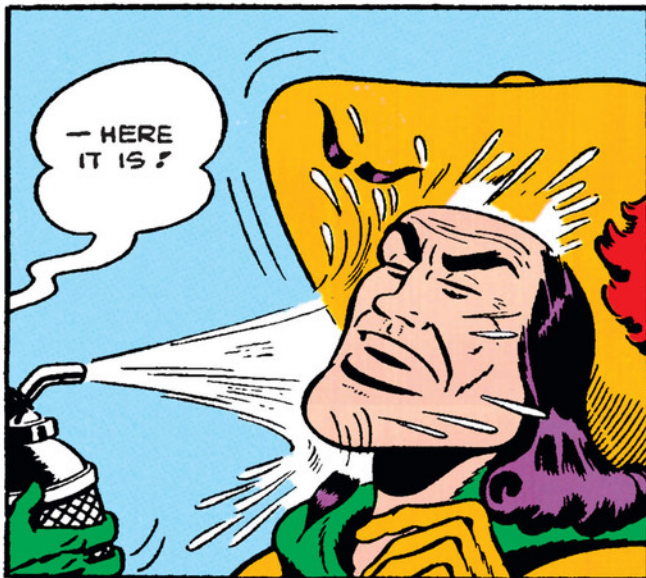
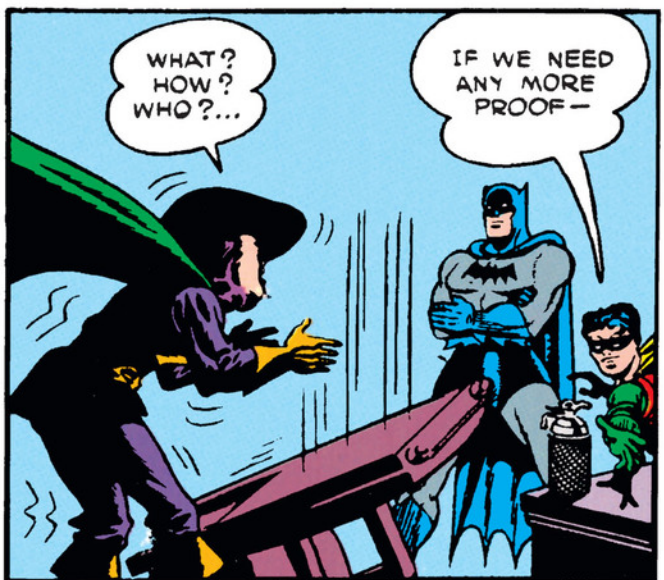
SUDDENLY...

AND THE ONLY THING YOU'LL GET THIS SECOND TRIP, CAVALIER, IS A TRIP TO PRISON!

BY MY FAITH, YOU TWAIN AGAIN!

RIGHT! AND THIS TWAIN ALWAYS MEETS... ALL COMERS, FIST-FIRST!

I DEFEAT NOT THIS EASILY!



THROUGH CITY STREETS AND INTO THE SUBURBS SPEEDS THE FLEETEST CAR IN THE WORLD... AND A SHORT WHILE LATER...

I FIGURE HE RUSHED RIGHT HOME?

PROBABLY! THERE MUST BE A FEW THINGS HE'D WANT TO TAKE WITH HIM BEFORE WE CLOSED IN!

BUT A SWIFT SEARCH OF THE DRAKE HOME REVEALS...

NO SIGN OF HIM! WHAT'S THAT ROOM?

WOW! COME OVER HERE AND TAKE A LOOK!

SO THIS IS WHY HE KEPT TRYING TO STEAL QUEER THINGS LIKE SPORTS MINIATURES, JEWELER'S MODELS OF DIAMONDS...

RIGHT! HE'S A COLLECTOR—A CRIME COLLECTOR AND THIS WAS TO HAVE BEEN HIS PRIVATE, SECRET MUSEUM!

WORKING MODEL OF HELMAR HELSTROM TYPEWRITER

JUST THEN...

R.R.RING!

THERE'S THE DOORBELL!

CAREFUL! IT MAY BE A TRAP!

BUT WHEN THEY WARILY OPEN THE DOOR...

TELEGRAM FOR BATMAN AND ROB—G-GOLLY! I THOUGHT IT WAS A GAG!

HUH?

WHAT???

HOW'D ANYBODY KNOW WE WERE HERE? WHO'S IT FROM?

JUST A SECOND...

BATMAN AND ROBIN
1605 GROVE AVENUE

YOU ARE WELCOME TO MY HOME AND FORTUNE... SINCE THE IDENTITY OF MORTIMER DRAKE IS NO LONGER SAFE FOR ME! THIS IS YOUR ROUND—BUT I SHALL BE SOMEONE ELSE WHEN NEXT WE MEET—AND MEET WE SHALL!

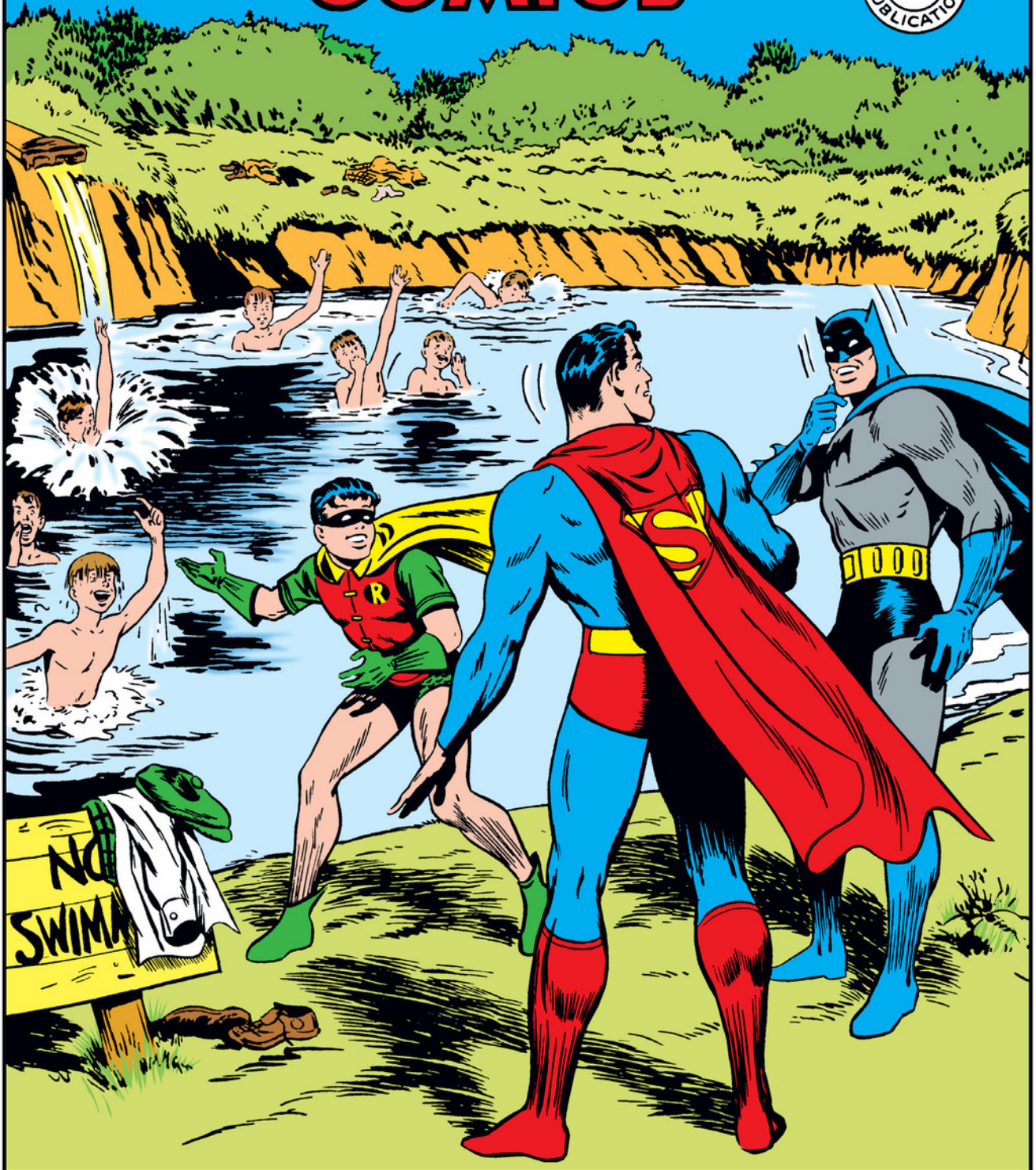
THE CAVALIER

THE END

No.14

SUMMER ISSUE

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

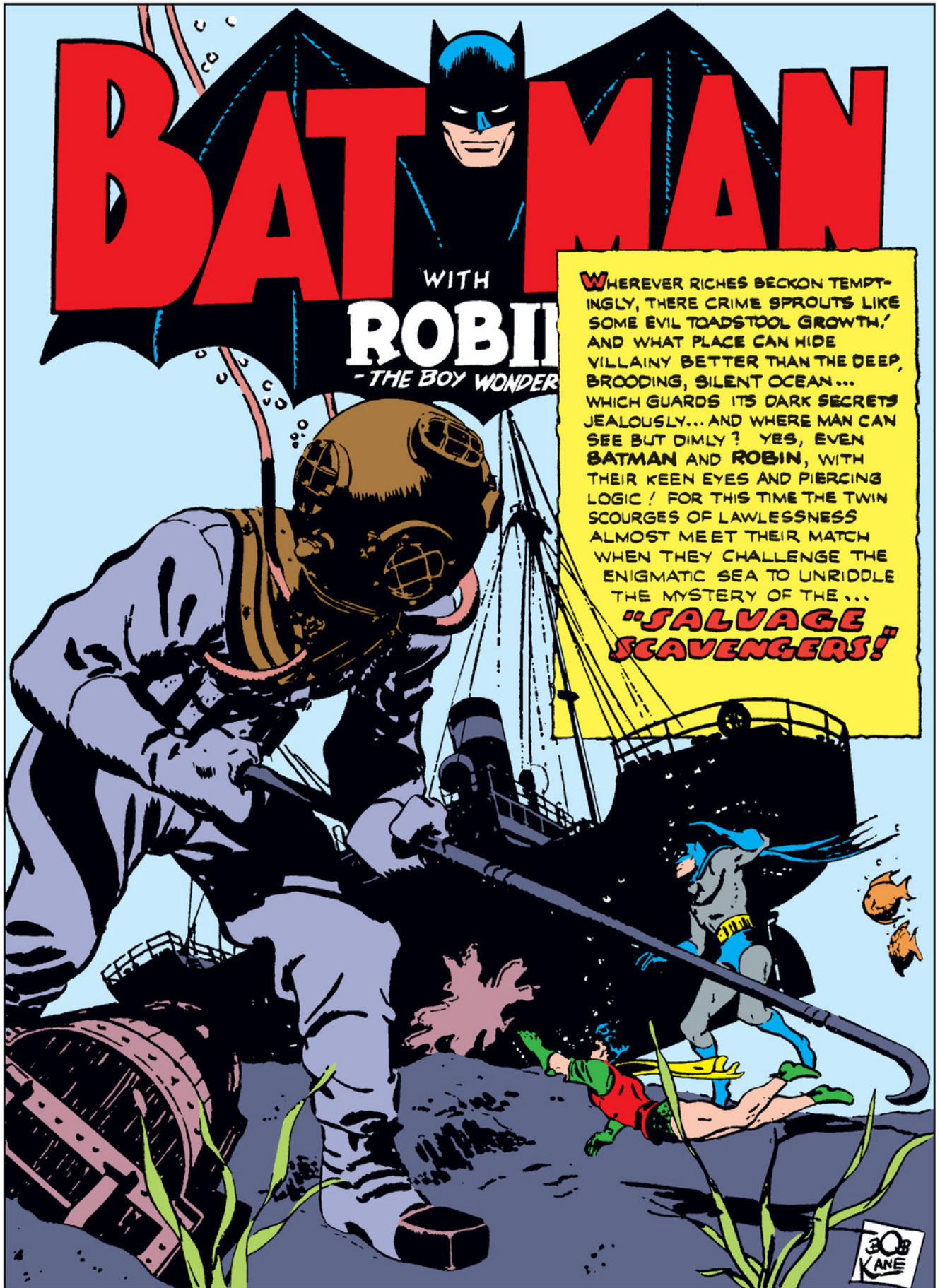


BATMAN

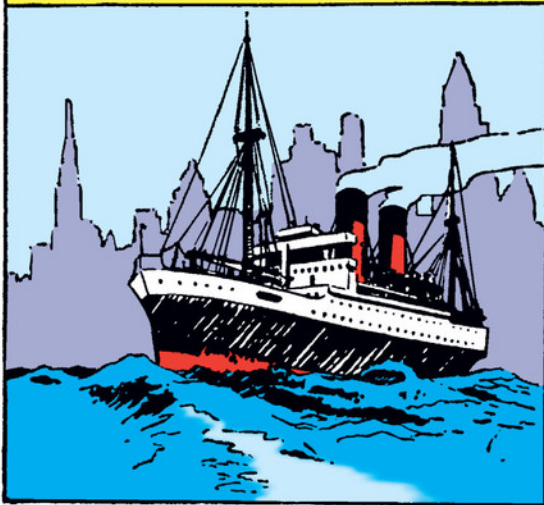
WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER

WHEREVER RICHES BECKON TEMPTINGLY, THERE CRIME SPROUTS LIKE SOME EVIL TOADSTOOL GROWTH, AND WHAT PLACE CAN HIDE VILLAINY BETTER THAN THE DEEP, BROODING, SILENT OCEAN... WHICH GUARDS ITS DARK SECRETS JEALOUSLY... AND WHERE MAN CAN SEE BUT DIMLY? YES, EVEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, WITH THEIR KEEN EYES AND PIERCING LOGIC! FOR THIS TIME THE TWIN SCOURGES OF LAWLESSNESS ALMOST MEET THEIR MATCH WHEN THEY CHALLENGE THE ENIGMATIC SEA TO UNRIDDLE THE MYSTERY OF THE...

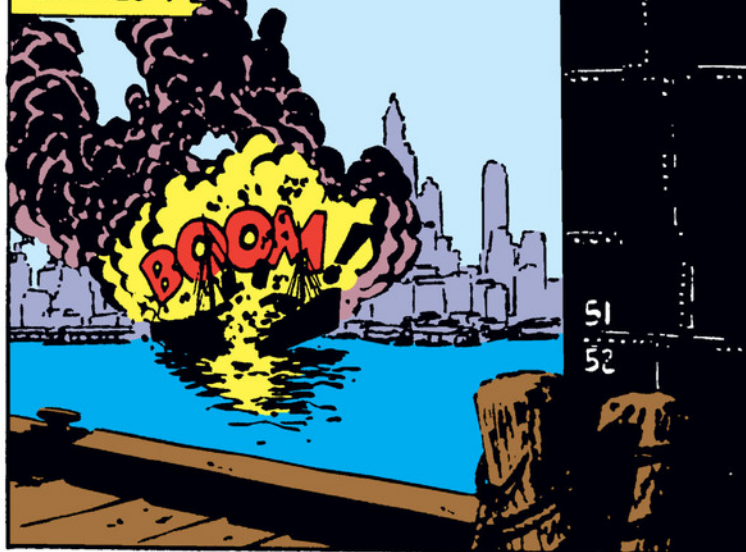
**"SALVAGE
SCAVENGERS!"**



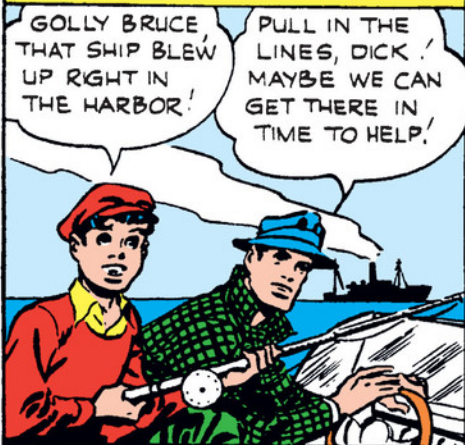
BACK FROM HER VOYAGE TO FAR-DISTANT PORTS, THE S.S. LUXOR STEAMS INTO PLACID GOTHAM HARBOR...



WHEN SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING, TRAGEDY STRIKES!



NOT FAR FROM THE DISASTER, BRUCE WAYNE, SOCIETY PLAYBOY, AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, PEACEFULLY FISHING AN INSTANT BEFORE, WHIRL IN HORROR!



GOLLY BRUCE, THAT SHIP BLEW UP RIGHT IN THE HARBOR!

PULL IN THE LINES, DICK! MAYBE WE CAN GET THERE IN TIME TO HELP!

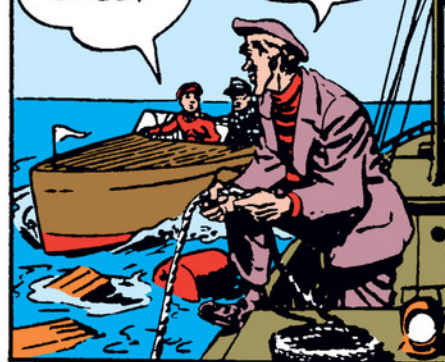


WE'RE TOO LATE!

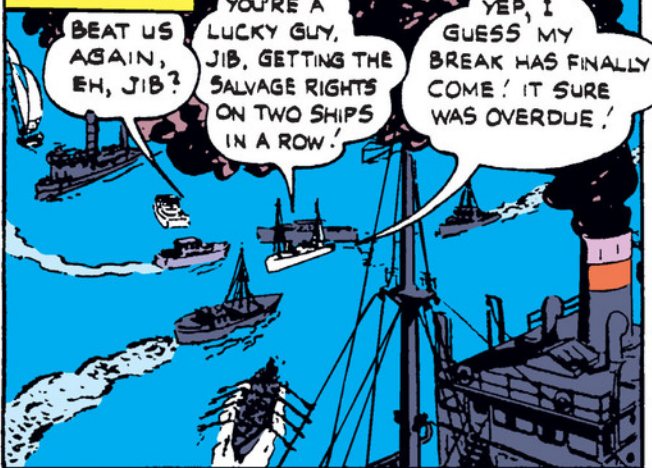
INSTANTS LATER...

HERE'S SOMEONE GOT HERE AHEAD OF US!

I WAS ONLY A LITTLE DISTANCE AWAY! COULDN'T SAVE ANYONE, BUT I GOT MY SALVAGE BUOY DOWN FIRST!



DRAWN BY THE EARTH-RENDING CRASH OF THE CATASTROPHE, THE BOATS OF THE HARBOR COME NOSING IN...



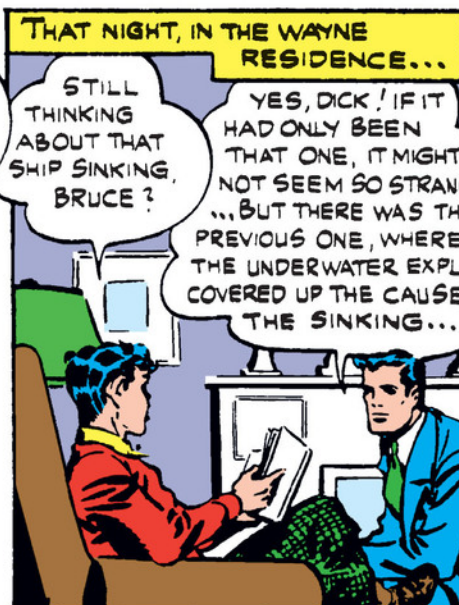
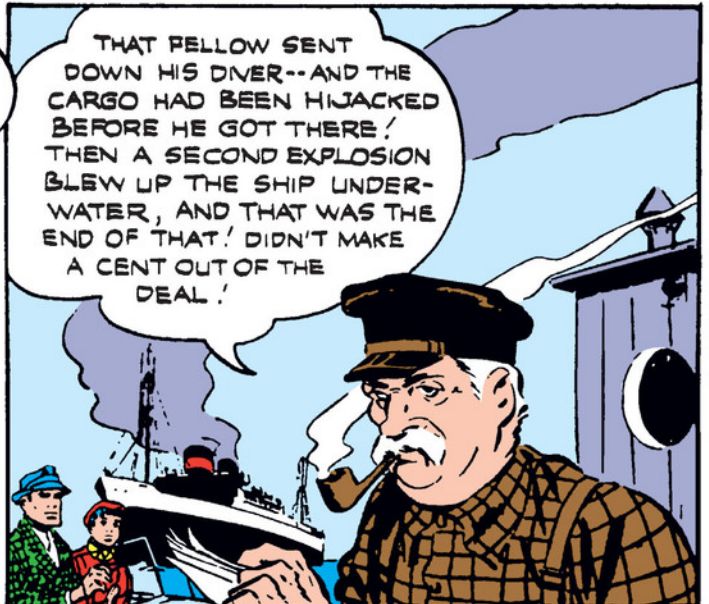
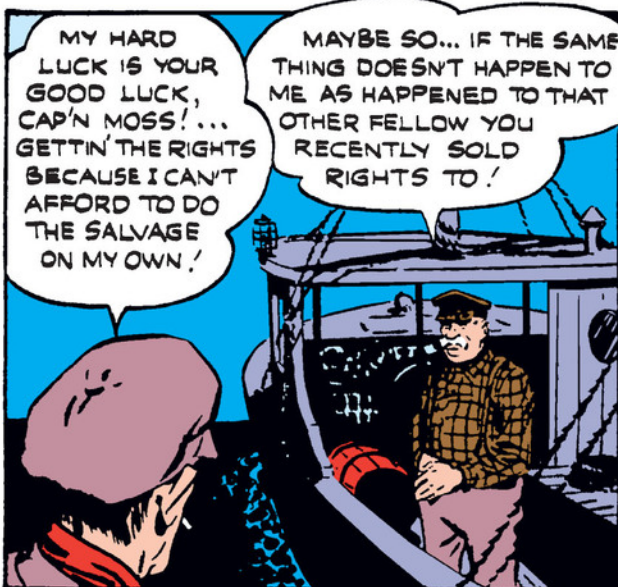
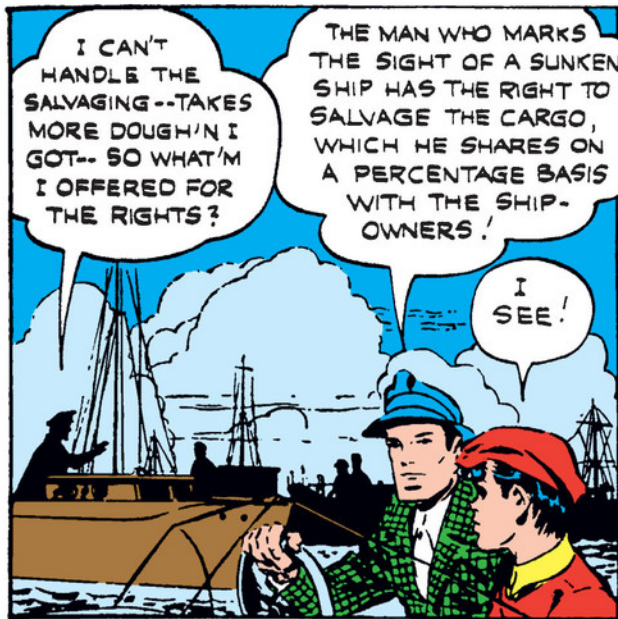
BEAT US AGAIN, EH, JIB?

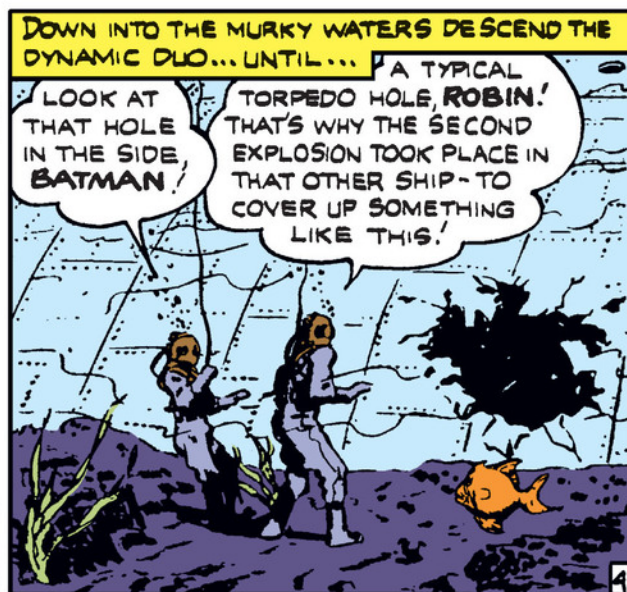
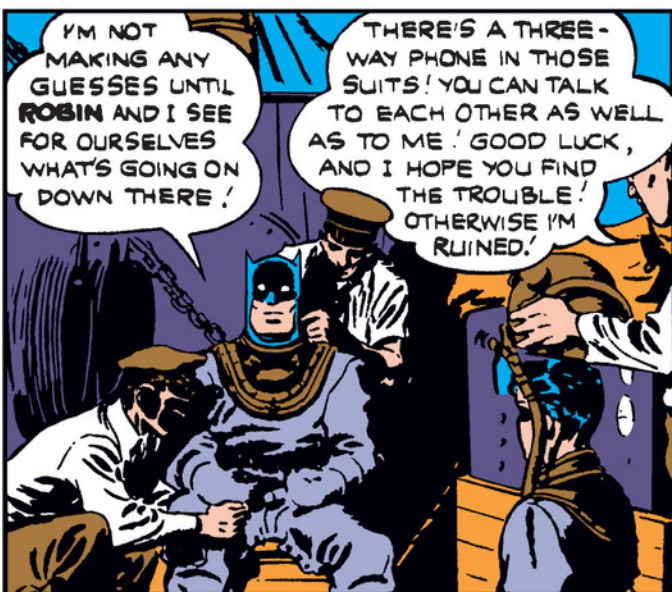
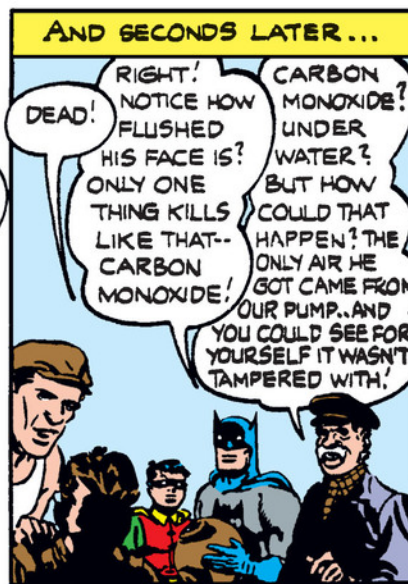
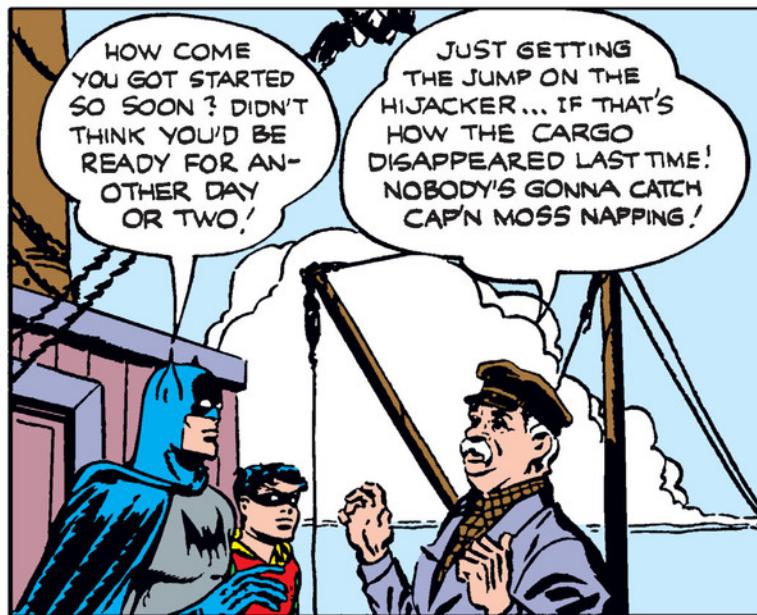
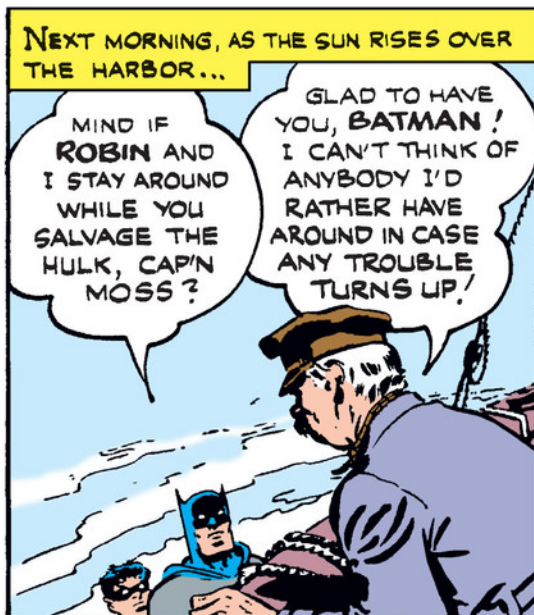
YOU'RE A LUCKY GUY, JIB, GETTING THE SALVAGE RIGHTS ON TWO SHIPS IN A ROW!

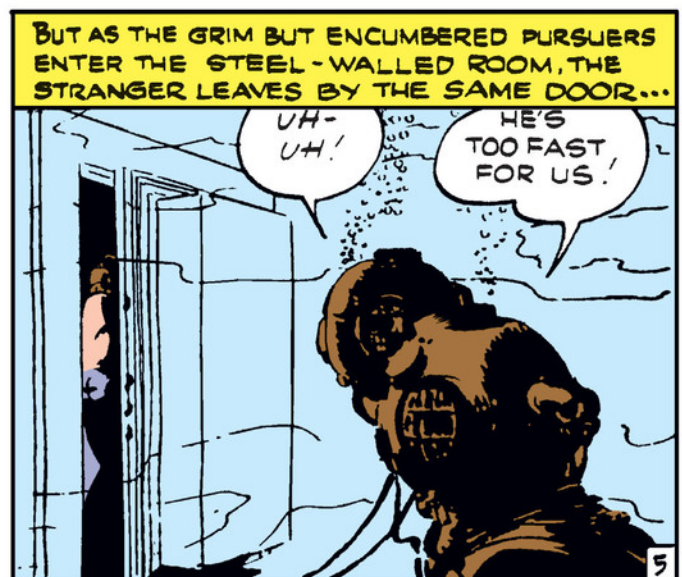
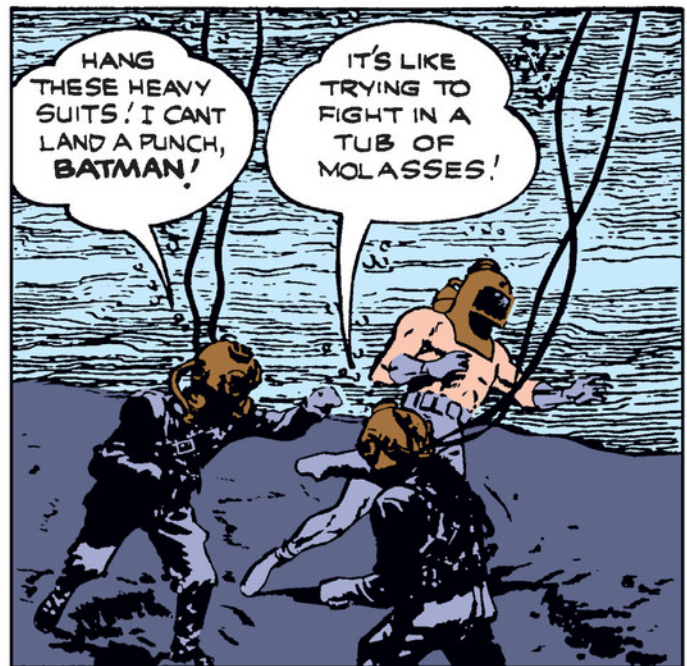
YEP, I GUESS MY BREAK HAS FINALLY COME! IT SURE WAS OVERDUE!

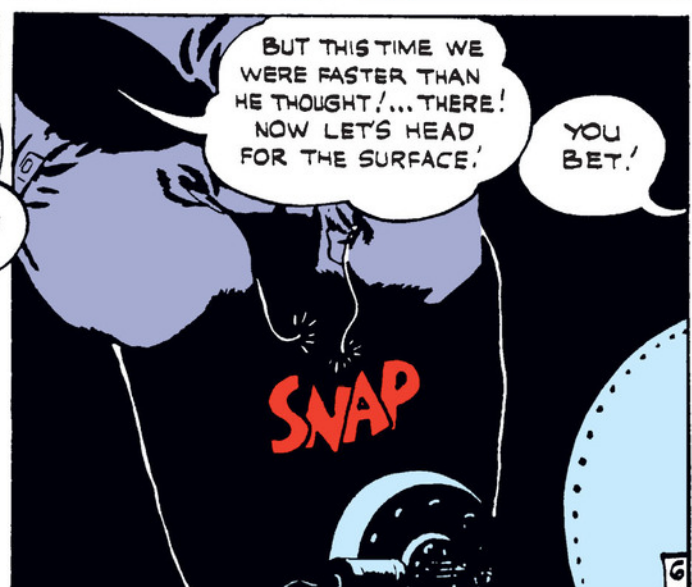
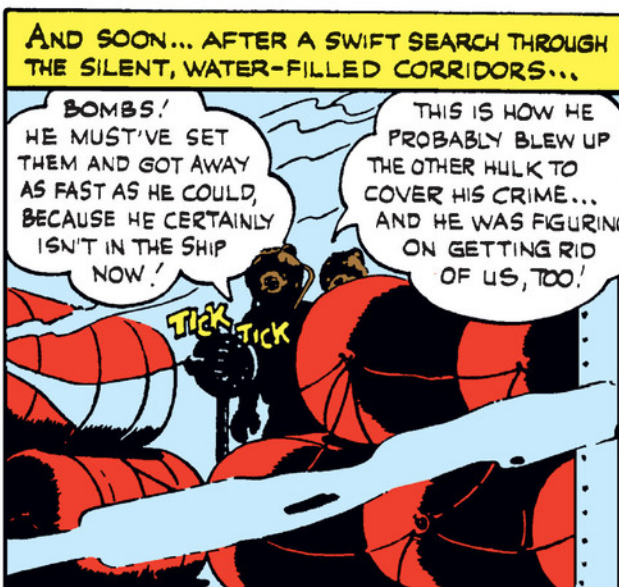
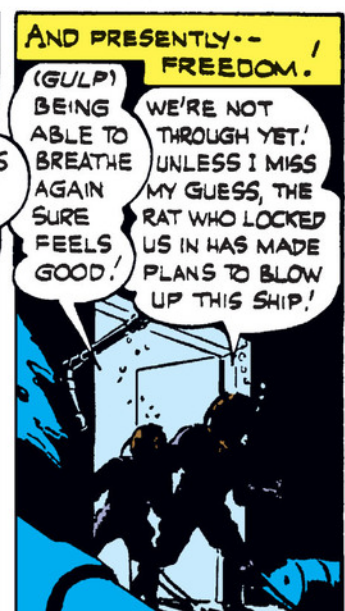
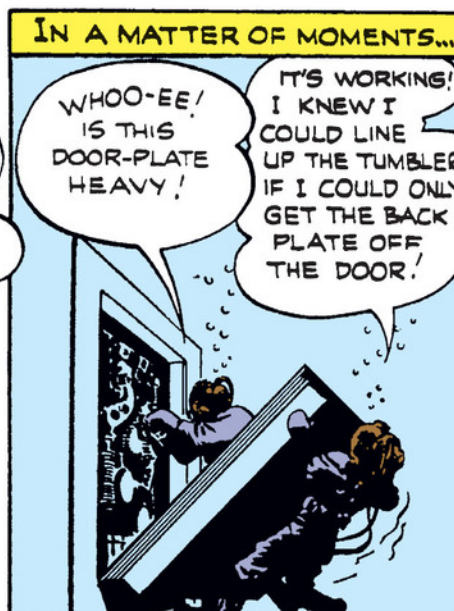
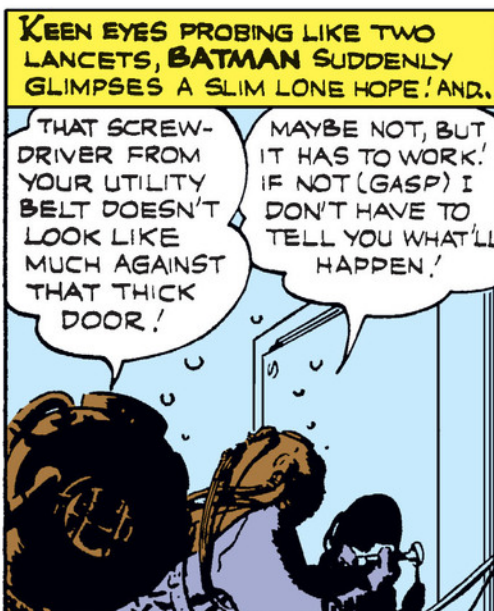
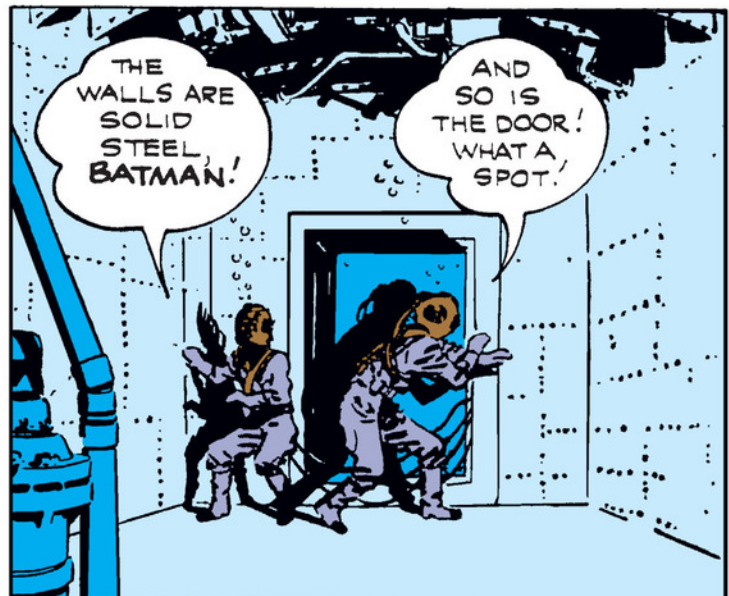
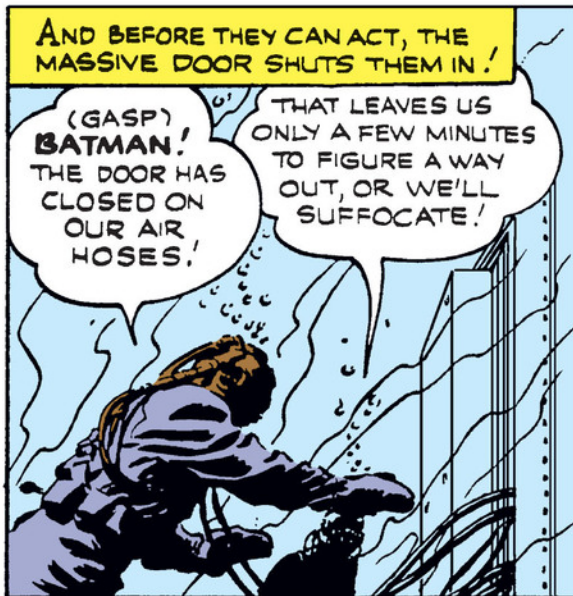


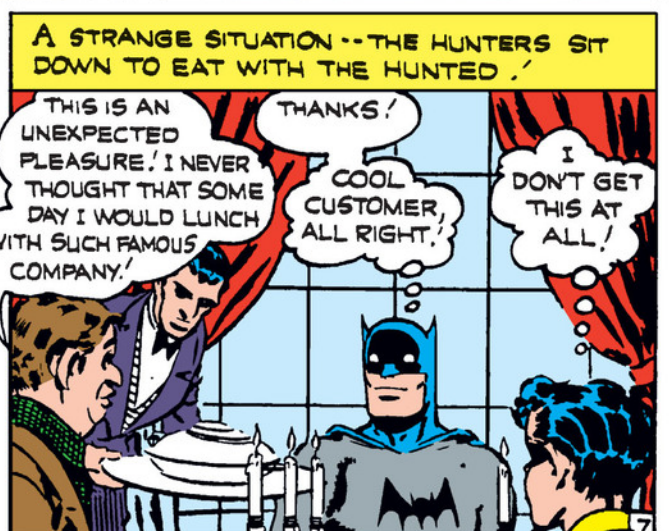
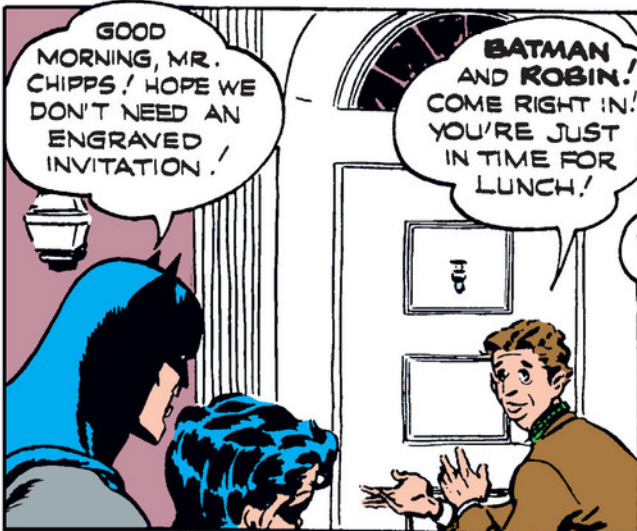
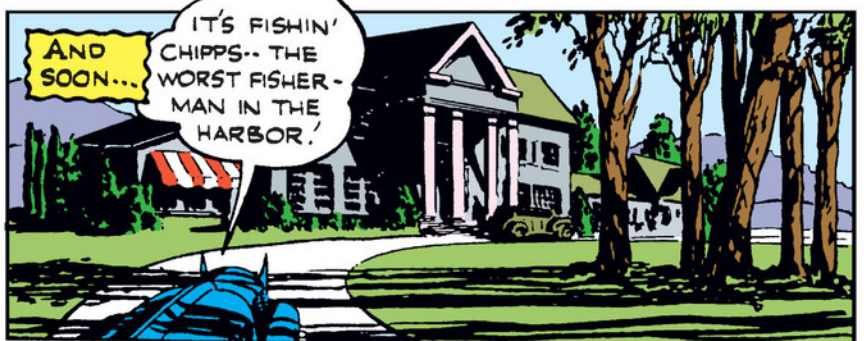
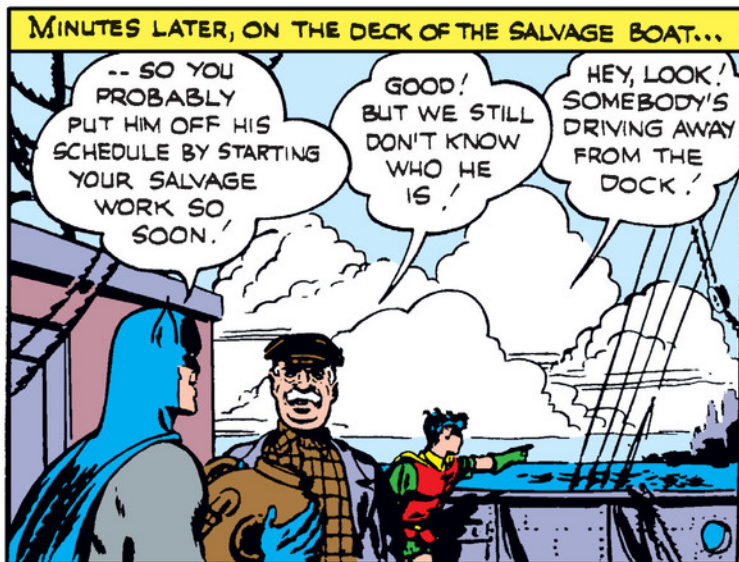
FROM EX-CONVICT AND NEEDY OWNER OF A RICKETY HOUSEBOAT AND A DECREPIT OUTBOARD MOTORBOAT, JIB BUCKLER HAS BECOME THE UNEXPECTED BENEFICIARY OF THE UNPREDICTABLE SEA! STRANGE, YES-- BUT THE OCEAN MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS.











THE ELABORATE MEAL OVER, THE ODD HOST INVITES HIS PUZZLED GUESTS ON A TOUR OF HIS LUXURIOUS MANSION... WHICH ENDS FINALLY AT HIS GALLERY OF COSTLY MASTER-PIECES

VERY PECULIAR, CHIPPS! HOW CAN YOU AFFORD SUCH A PLACE WHEN EVERYBODY KNOWS YOU CATCH VERY FEW FISH?

WHY, I WAS BORN RICH! FISHING IS MY HOBBY, AND I DON'T CATCH MANY BECAUSE I STAY TOO CLOSE TO SHORE!

THEN WHY NOT GO FARTHER OUT WHERE THERE ARE PLENTY OF FISH?

I GET SEASICK!... WELL, I MUST BE GETTING BACK TO THE BOAT!

SO MUST WE! WE'LL FOLLOW YOU IN THE BAT-MOBILE!

LATER, ABOARD FISHIN' CHIPPS' OLD CRAFT...

DO YOU MIND IF WE EXAMINE YOUR BOAT? THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT IT THAT RINGS A FAINT BELL IN MY MEMORY... BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER JUST WHAT!

GO RIGHT AHEAD! AND IF I CAN HELP IN ANY WAY, DON'T HESITATE TO ASK!

WHAT'S THIS LEVER FOR?.. UH-HUH! I THOUGHT SO! THIS IS AN OLD Q-BOAT FROM THE LAST WAR... THE KIND THAT WAS USED TO COMBAT U-BOATS AND SINK GERMAN SHIPPING!

JUMPING SWORDFISH!

CLANK CLANK

I DIDN'T KNOW THIS WAS AN OLD Q-BOAT! I SWEAR IT!

NOT MUCH YOU DIDN'T!

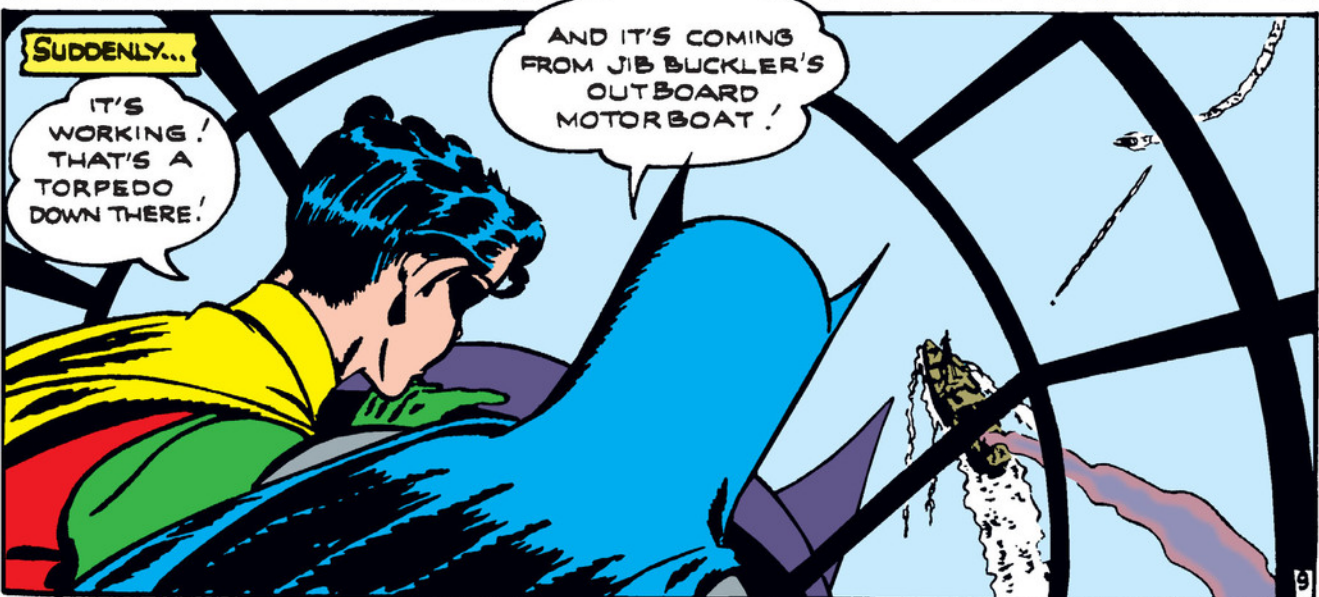
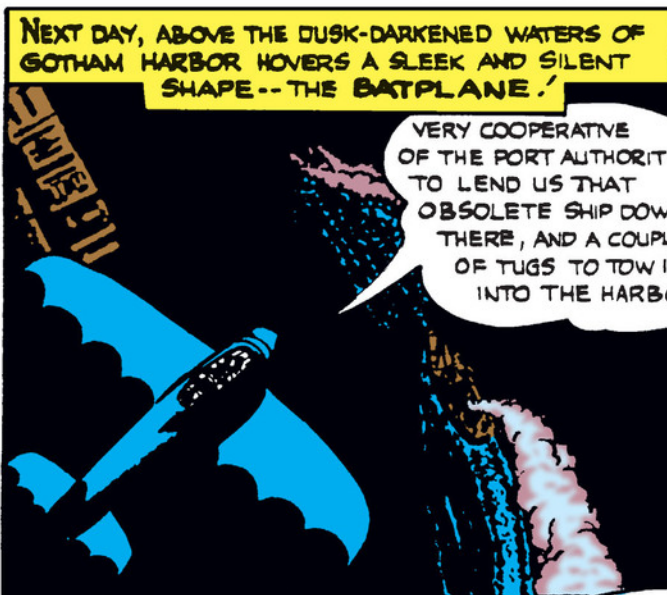
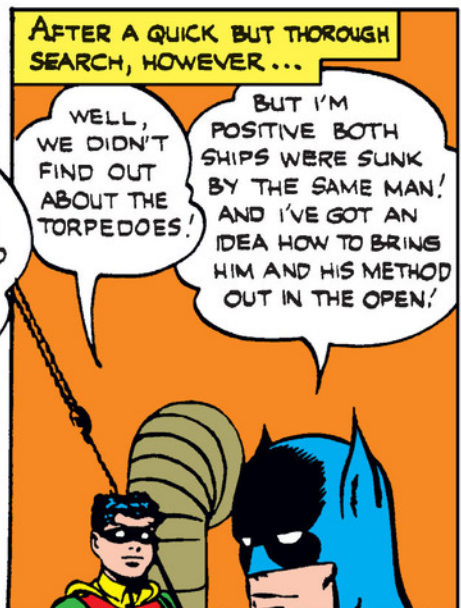
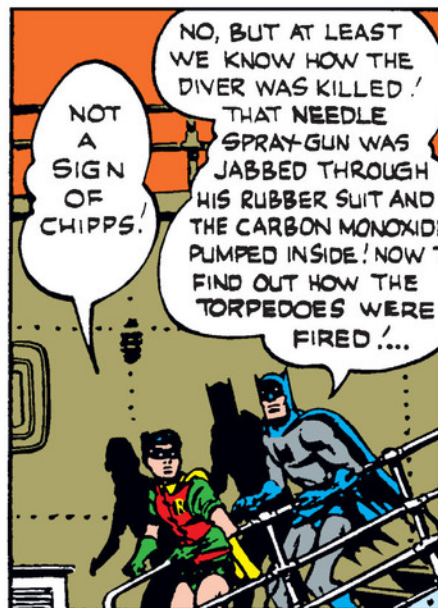
WAIT A MINUTE, ROBIN! HE MAY BE TELLING THE TRUTH!

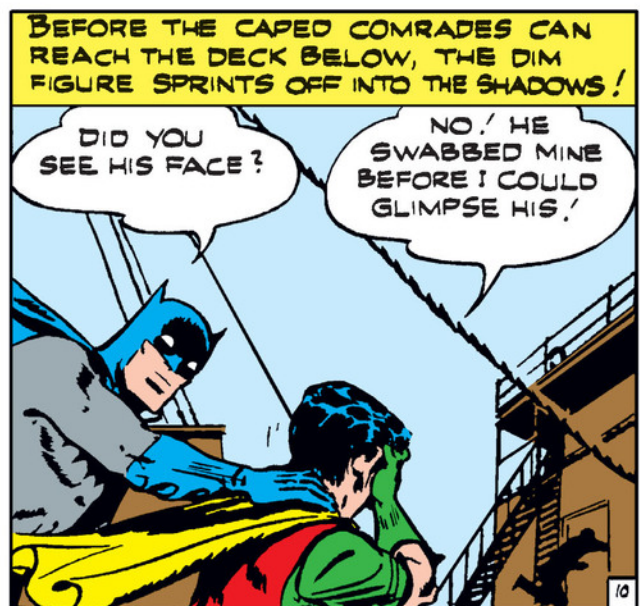
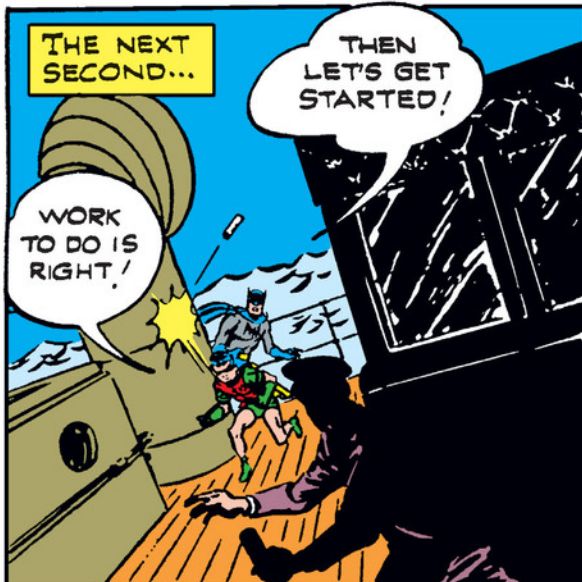
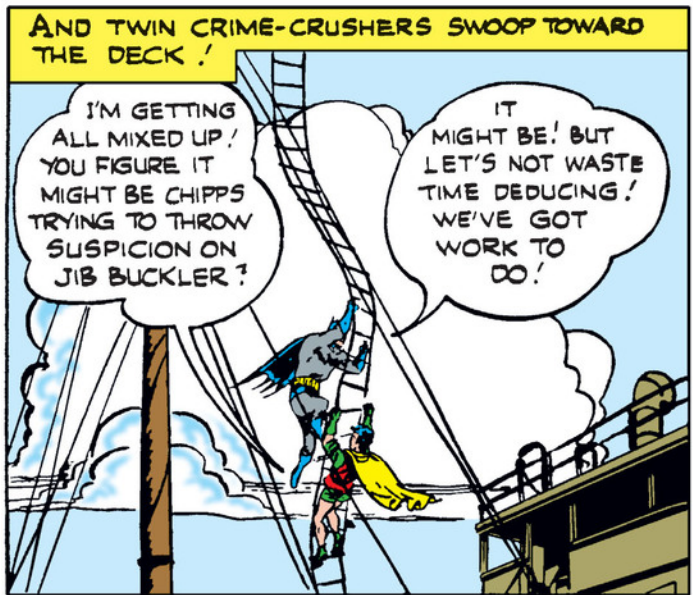
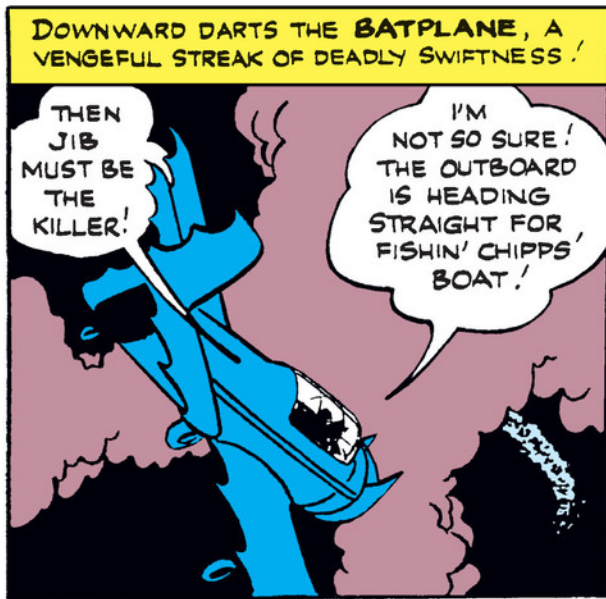
SEE? THIS GUN IS COVERED WITH RUST! IT PROBABLY HASN'T BEEN USED SINCE 1918!

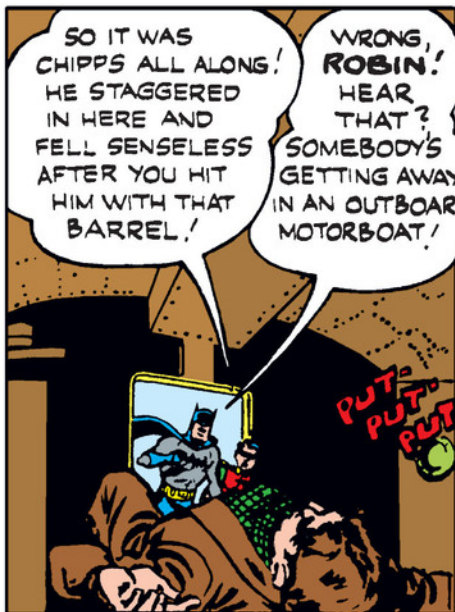
BUT WHEN THE PARTNERS IN PERIL PROBE FOR FURTHER CLUES...

WOW! HERE'S THE EQUIPMENT OF THAT DIVER WE TANGLED WITH YESTERDAY!

I KNEW THIS SETUP WAS PHONEY THE MINUTE I SET EYES ON IT!







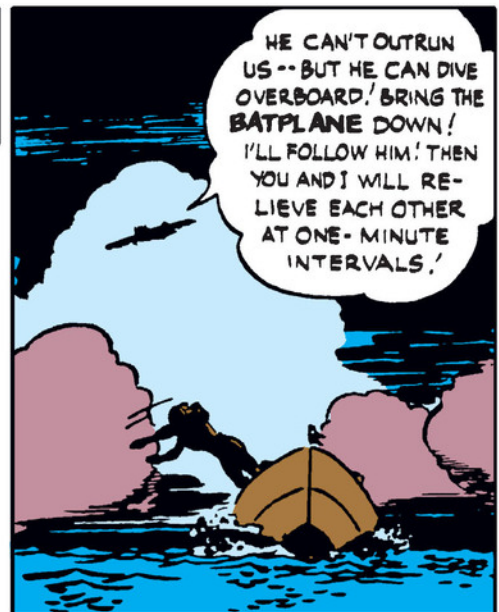
SO IT WAS CHIPPS ALL ALONG! HE STAGGERED IN HERE AND FELL SENSELESS AFTER YOU HIT HIM WITH THAT BARREL!

WRONG, ROBIN! HEAR THAT? SOMEBODY'S GETTING AWAY IN AN OUTBOARD MOTORBOAT!

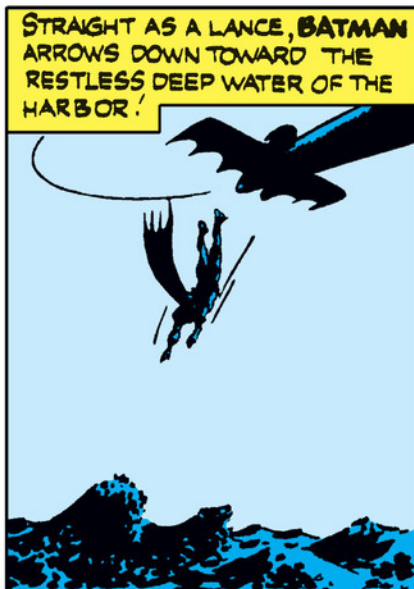


SWARMING ABOARD THE LOW-HOVERING BATPLANE, THE POWERHOUSE PAIR PURSUES THE UNKNOWN FUGITIVE!

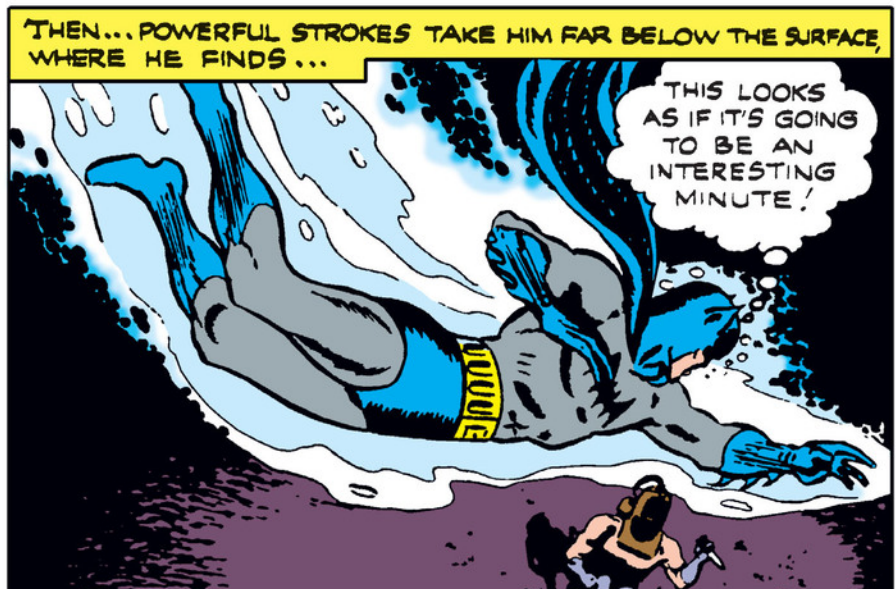
WE'VE GOT HIM NOW! HE CAN'T OUTRUN THE BATPLANE!



HE CAN'T OUTRUN US -- BUT HE CAN DIVE OVERBOARD! BRING THE BATPLANE DOWN! I'LL FOLLOW HIM! THEN YOU AND I WILL RELIEVE EACH OTHER AT ONE-MINUTE INTERVALS!

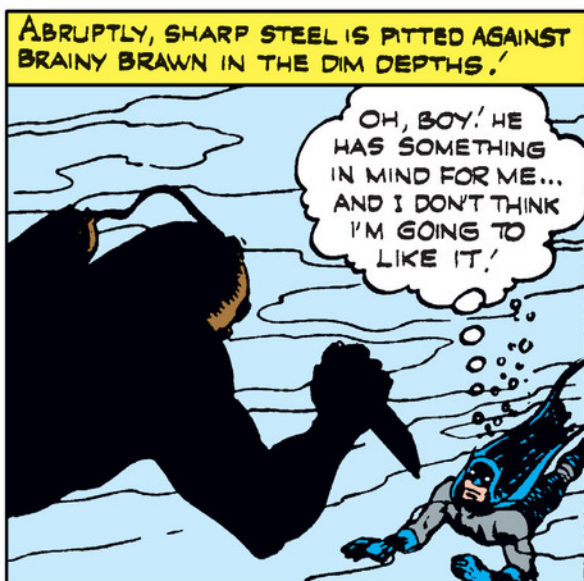


STRAIGHT AS A LANCE, BATMAN ARROWS DOWN TOWARD THE RESTLESS DEEP WATER OF THE HARBOR!



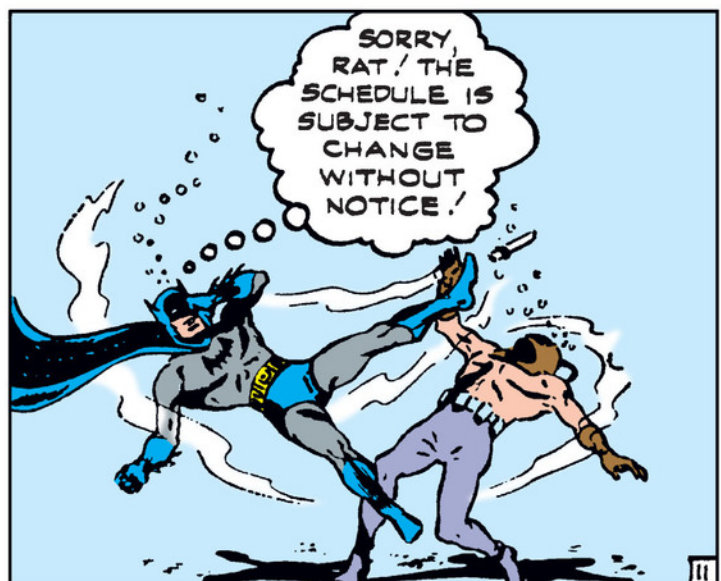
THEN... POWERFUL STROKES TAKE HIM FAR BELOW THE SURFACE, WHERE HE FINDS...

THIS LOOKS AS IF IT'S GOING TO BE AN INTERESTING MINUTE!



ABRUPTLY, SHARP STEEL IS PITTED AGAINST BRAINY BRAWN IN THE DIM DEPTHS!

OH, BOY! HE HAS SOMETHING IN MIND FOR ME... AND I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO LIKE IT!



SORRY, RAT! THE SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE!

A LONG MINUTE PASSES... AND RELIEF ARRIVES!

A TORPEDO TUBE UNDER THE OUTBOARD MOTORBOAT! PRETTY CLEVER, ALL RIGHT! AND DANGEROUS! BUT **ROBIN** AND I'LL NAB HIM-- I HOPE!

MEANWHILE, JUST ABOVE THE MUD OF THE HARBOR BOTTOM...

GOLLY! A THING LIKE THAT COULD HURT SOMEBODY!

BUT NOT THIS YOUNGSTER! NOW, IF YOU HAVEN'T ANY MORE PLAYTHINGS, WE'LL GET DOWN TO THE BUSINESS OF KNOCKING YOUR BLOCK OFF!

A SCANT MINUTE TO FILL HIS STARVED LUNGS... THEN BATMAN RETURNS TO THE WATERY FRAY!

OF COURSE! HE SANK THE SHIPS... SOLD THE SALVAGE RIGHTS... AND THEN HIJACKED THE CARGOES! BUT HOW DID HE DO THE HIJACKING?

JIB BUCKLER!

GASP!

A SAVAGE WRENCH, AND THE UNMASKED EX-CONVICT FLEES!

THERE'S THE ANSWER TO THE LAST PUZZLE... A SUBMOBILE! HE COULD KEEP OXYGEN REFILLS IN THERE, LOAD IT UP WITH THE STOLEN CARGOES, AND RIDE TO AND FROM SHORE!

WITH THE THROB OF MUFFLED MOTORS, THE UNDERSEA CAR JOLTS INTO FRANTIC MOTION!

HEY, LOOK, OUT.

.. DIRECTLY AT THE PILE OF TORPEDOES! AND THE NEXT INSTANT...

BLAM!

LATER...

WELL, THERE'LL BE NO MORE SHIP SINKINGS IN GOTHAM HARBOR FROM NOW ON!

SUITS ME HOW ABOUT TAKING THE DAY OFF AND GOING FOR A SWIM, **BATMAN**?

THE END

BATMAN
No.24

BACK THE 5TH WAR LOAN!



BATMAN

AUG.
SEPT.

IN THIS ISSUE:
BATMAN AND ROBIN
LEAD OFF WITH A
TRULY UNUSUAL
ADVENTURE-IN-TIME...
**"IT HAPPENED
IN ROME!"**

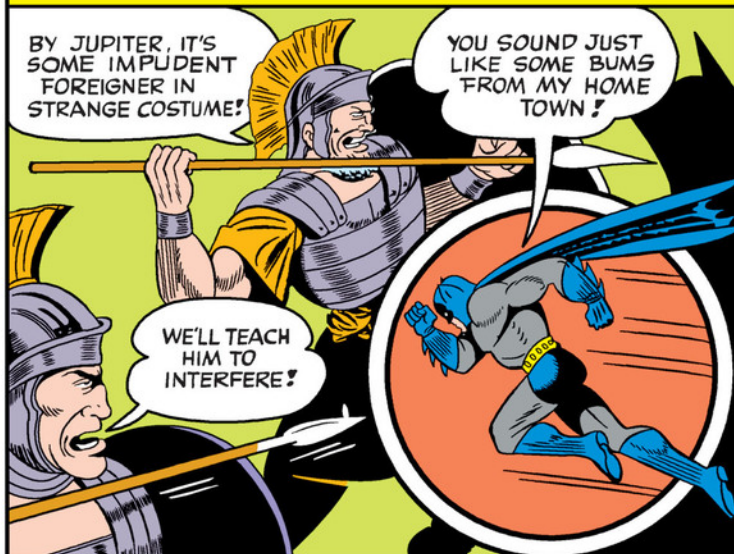




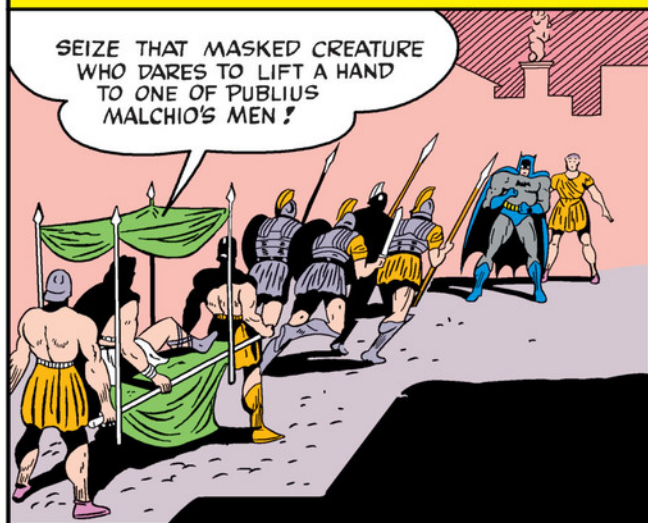
A SUDDEN COMMOTION NEARBY ATTRACTS
BRUCE'S ATTENTION ...



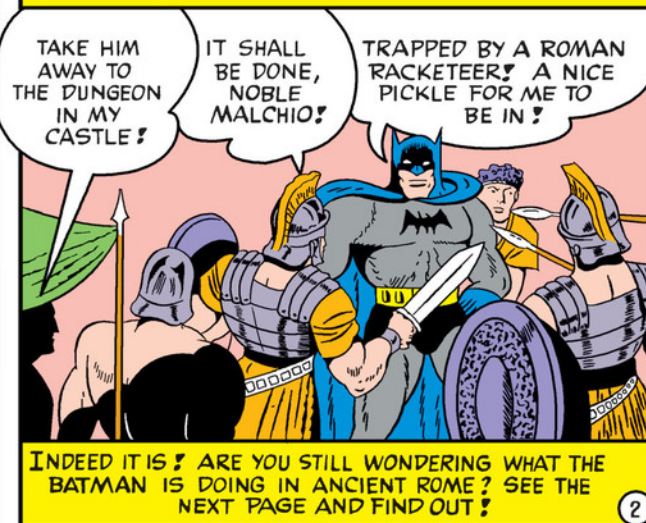
A SWIFT TRANSFORMATION... AND THE BATMAN, CRIME-CRUSHER FROM 1942, CHARGES INTO THE THICK OF AN ANCIENT ROMAN FIGHT...



ABRUPTLY, A BAND OF GUARDSMEN BEARS DOWN UPON THE TWO ...



AGAINST THAT SINISTER CIRCLE OF STEEL, EVEN THE BATMAN IS HELPLESS TO ACT!



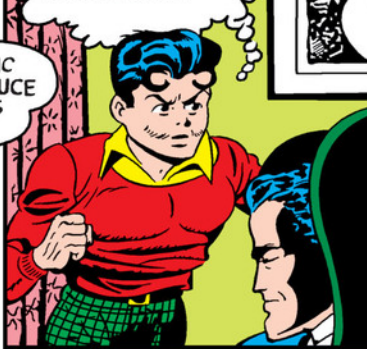
NOW BACK TO 1942--TO THE HOME OF THE FAMED SCIENTIST PROFESSOR CARTER NICHOLS, WHERE A HYPNOTIZED BRUCE WAYNE SPRAWLS LIMPLY IN A CHAIR!

DO YOU MEAN TO SAY, PROFESSOR, THAT HE'S NOW IN ANCIENT ROME, WHERE YOU PROJECTED HIM?

THAT'S RIGHT! IF MY HYPNOTIC EXPERIMENT WORKED, BRUCE IS NOW SEEING THE SIGHTS OF A BYGONE ERA!



I'VE GOT A FUNNY HUNCH SOMETHING'S WRONG---BRUCE IS IN A JAM!



FOR SO STRONG IS THE BOND BETWEEN BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, THAT A TELEPATHIC WARNING BELL RINGS A SHRILL ALARM ACROSS THE CENTURIES!

PROFESSOR HOW ABOUT HYPNOTIZING ME AND SENDING ME TO THE SAME PLACE?

WHY, CERTAINLY! I CAN'T GUARANTEE MY EXPERIMENT WILL WORK, YOU KNOW! BUT WE'LL TRY!



PRESENTLY...

... BACK... BACK... TO ANCIENT ROME... BACK!



DICK'S SENSES SWIM, HIS MIND WHIRLS AS THOUGH IN A HUGE VACUUM, AND...

GOSH, IT WORKED! HERE I AM!

LOOK, OFFICER! A STRANGE YOUTH, PROBABLY FROM SOME FARAWAY PROVINCE!



WHERE DO YOU HAIL FROM, LAD? ARE YOU A SLAVE?

HUH? WELL, IT'S KIND OF HARD TO EXPLAIN, BUT I'M FROM AMERICA!



A-MER-I-KA! THERE'S NO SUCH PLACE! YOU MUST BE A RUNAWAY SLAVE!

I WAS AFRAID YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME!



SO HERE'S A TRICK I LEARNED AROUND MY BLOCK!



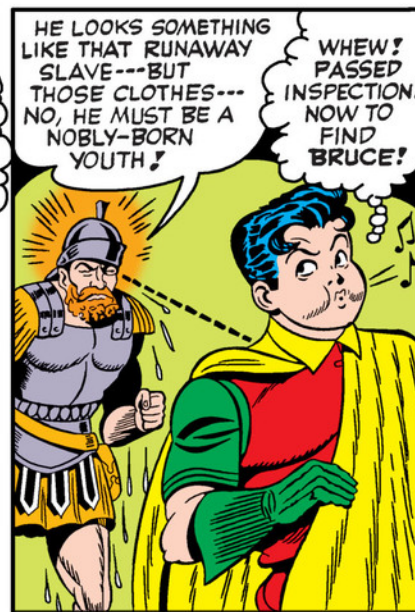


TWO OF A KIND? I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE QUICK, THOUGH---AND OUT OF THIS OUTFIT!



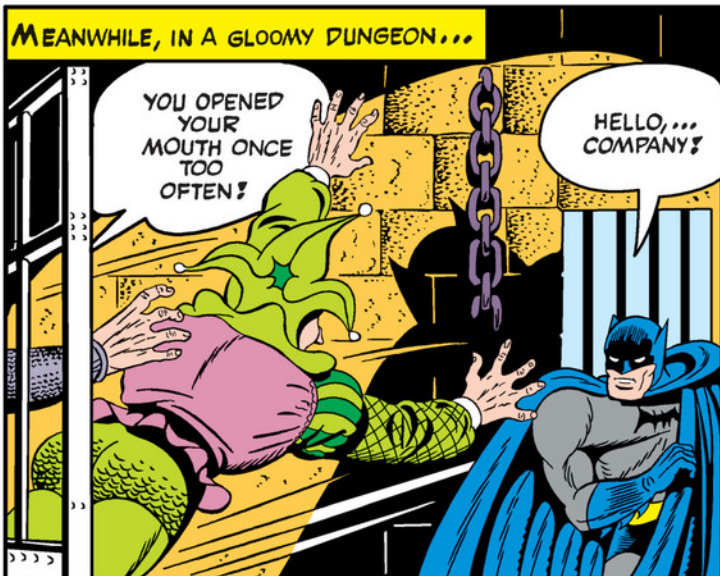
A MOMENT LATER...

WHEN IN ROME, DO AS THE ROMANS DO! I BET THAT COP THINKS THIS IS A TOGA! I'M GLAD I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MY MASK---NOBODY AROUND HERE WILL RECOGNIZE ME, ANYHOW!



HE LOOKS SOMETHING LIKE THAT RUNAWAY SLAVE---BUT THOSE CLOTHES---NO, HE MUST BE A NOBLY-BORN YOUTH!

WHEW! PASSED INSPECTION! NOW TO FIND BRUCE!



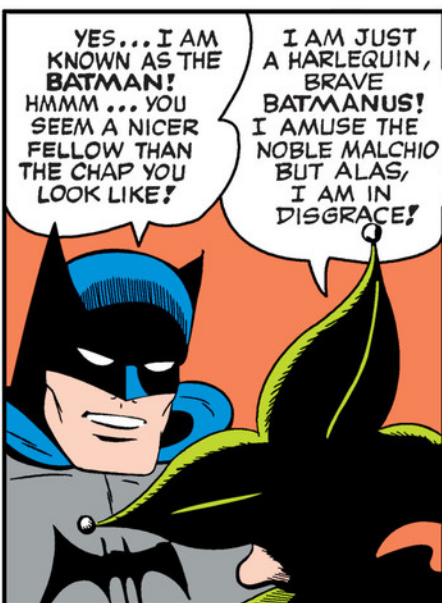
YOU OPENED YOUR MOUTH ONCE TOO OFTEN!

HELLO,... COMPANY!



WHAT'S THIS? THE JOKER, AS I LIVE!

NAY, I AM CALLED THE JESTER! YOU ARE THE PRISONER WHO INTERFERED WITH MALCHIO'S COLLECTIONS, AREN'T YOU?



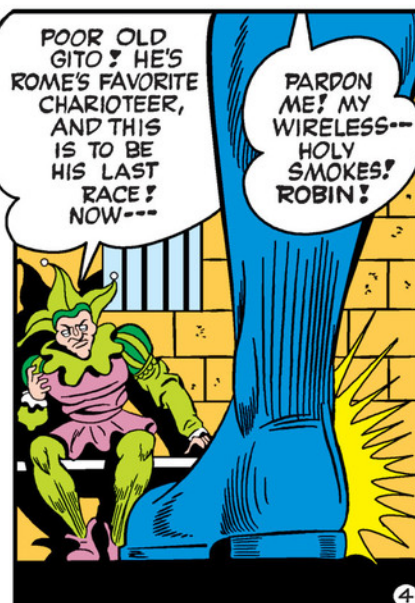
YES... I AM KNOWN AS THE BATMAN! HMMM... YOU SEEM A NICER FELLOW THAN THE CHAP YOU LOOK LIKE!

I AM JUST A HARLEQUIN, BRAVE BATMANUS! I AMUSE THE NOBLE MALCHIO BUT ALAS, I AM IN DISGRACE!



MALCHIO IS --- ER--- ADJUSTING THE BIG CHARIOT RACE AT THE CIRCUS TOMORROW, AND I MADE AN UNWISE JEST ABOUT IT!

SO THEY WERE FIXING RACES AS FAR BACK AS THIS, EH?



POOR OLD GITO! HE'S ROME'S FAVORITE CHARIOTEER, AND THIS IS TO BE HIS LAST RACE! NOW---

PARDON ME! MY WIRELESS--- HOLY SMOKES! ROBIN!

MODERN SCIENCE CONNECTS THE DYNAMIC DUO IN AN ANCIENT SETTING!



HELLO... BATMAN!

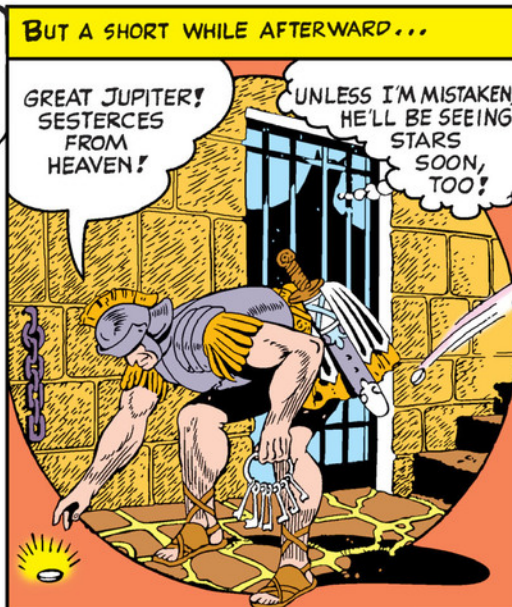
RIGHT!...LISTEN... I'M A PRISONER AT MALCHIO'S CASTLE! ...NEED HELP!...

DON'T LOOK SO SURPRISED, JESTER! THAT WAS JUST A LITTLE BIRD WHO'S GOING TO RESCUE US! ROBIN!

WHAT? I SEE NO WINGED CREATURE!



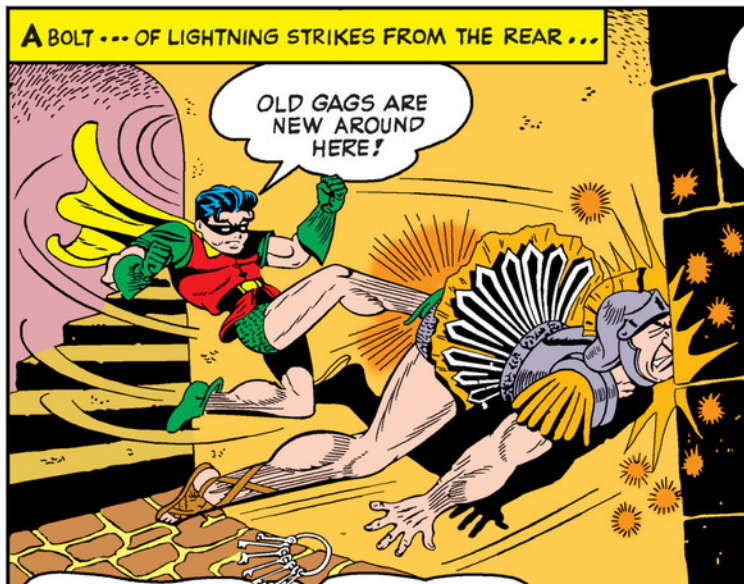
BUT A SHORT WHILE AFTERWARD...



GREAT JUPITER! SESTERCES FROM HEAVEN!

UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, HE'LL BE SEEING STARS SOON, TOO!

A BOLT... OF LIGHTNING STRIKES FROM THE REAR...



OLD GAGS ARE NEW AROUND HERE!

ROBIN, MEET THE JESTER! HE LOOKS LIKE THE JOKER, BUT HE'S ON OUR SIDE!

I HOPE HE HAS A BETTER SENSE OF HUMOR THAN THAT MADMAN!



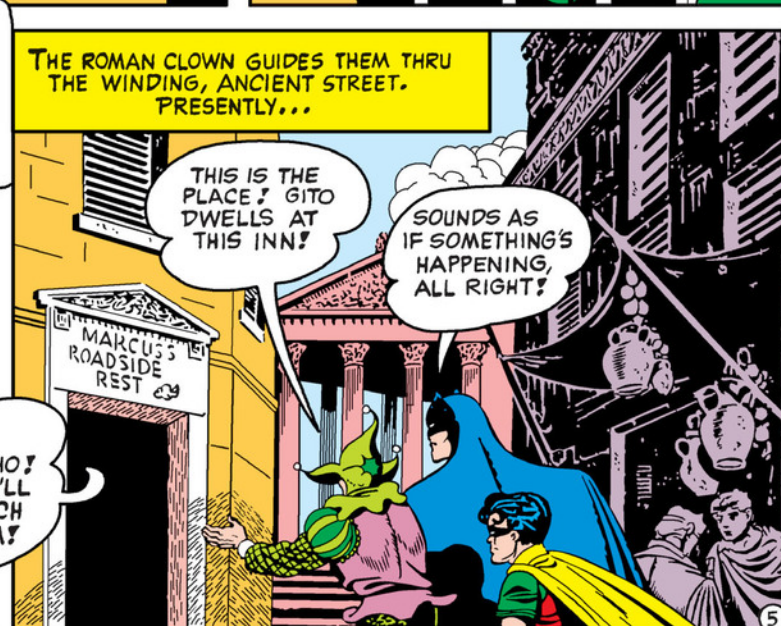
ALAS, MY MIRTH IS GONE! MY FRIEND, GITO, IS IN TROUBLE! MALCHIO AND HIS MEN HAVE GONE TO PUNISH HIM BECAUSE HE REFUSES TO THROW THE RACE!

NOW THAT WE'RE FREE, WE'LL HELP YOU, JESTER! LEAD US TO HIM!



HO, HO! THAT'LL TEACH HIM!

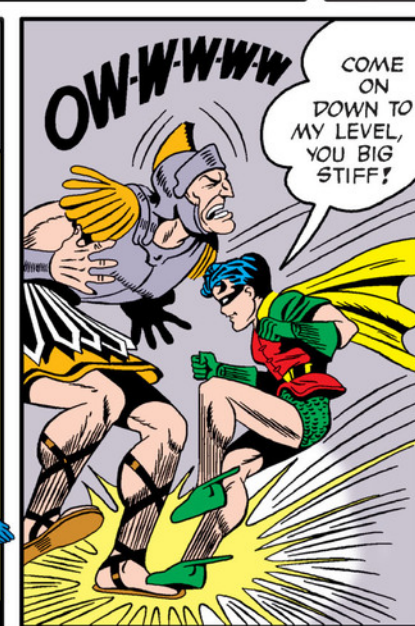
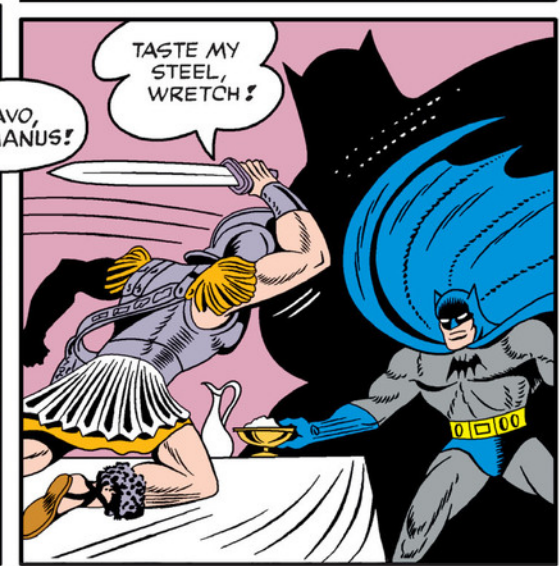
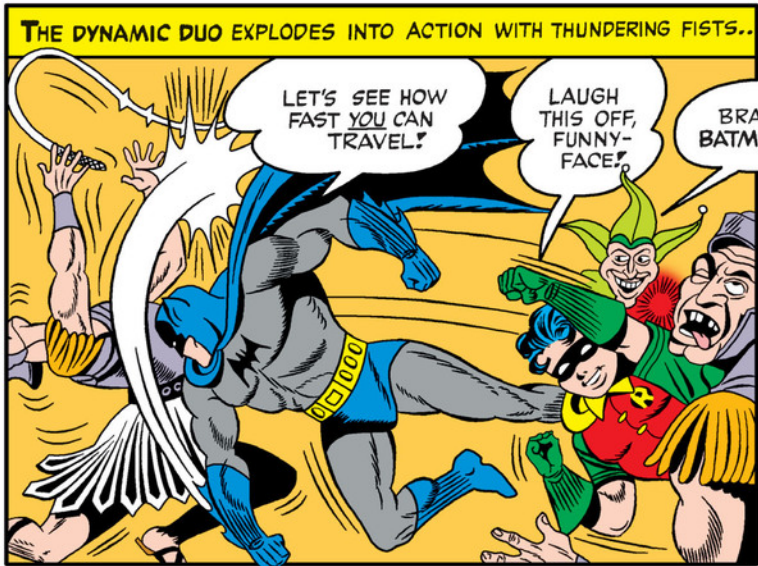
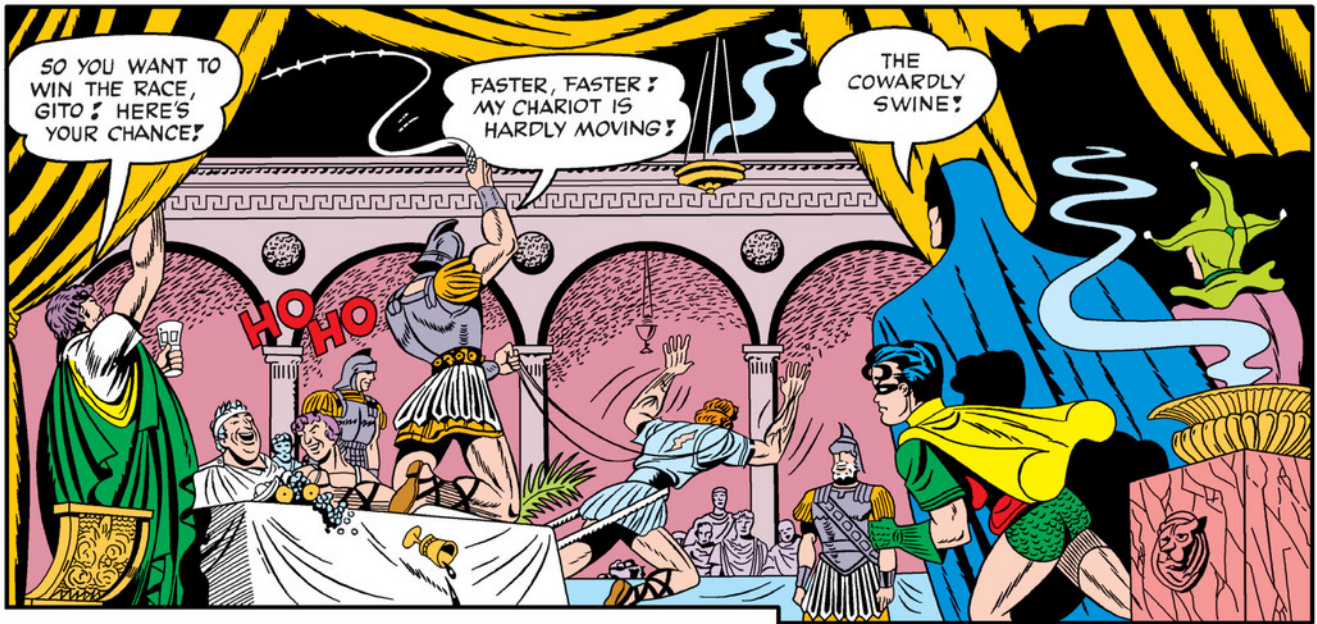
THE ROMAN CLOWN GUIDES THEM THRU THE WINDING, ANCIENT STREET. PRESENTLY...

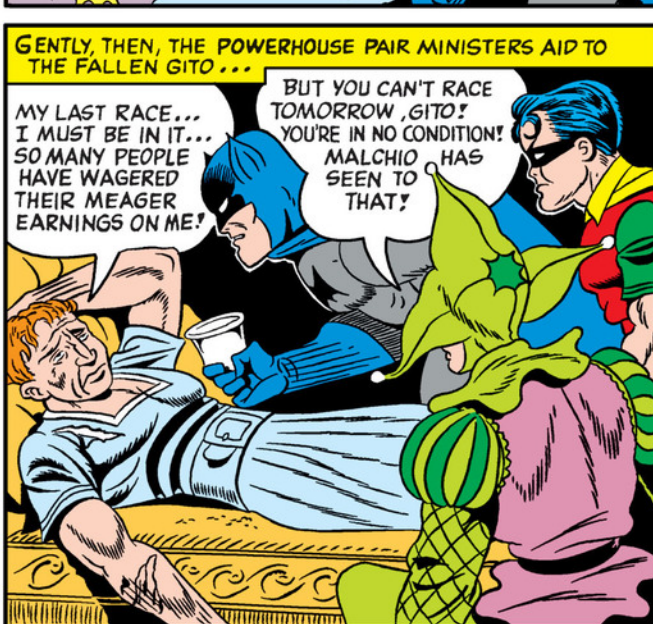
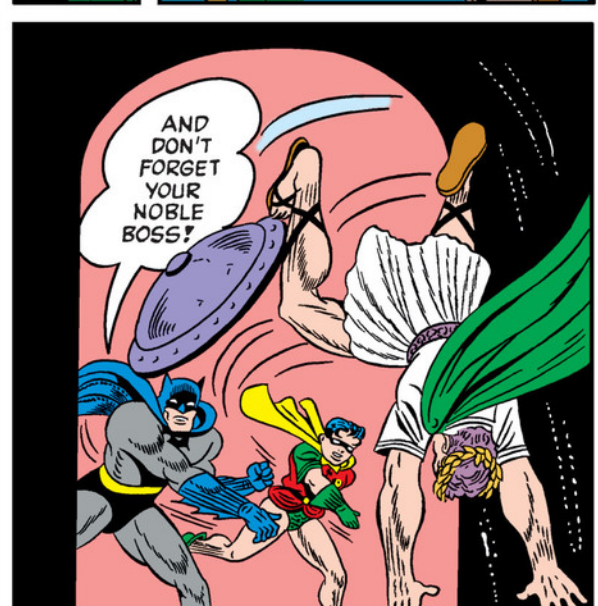
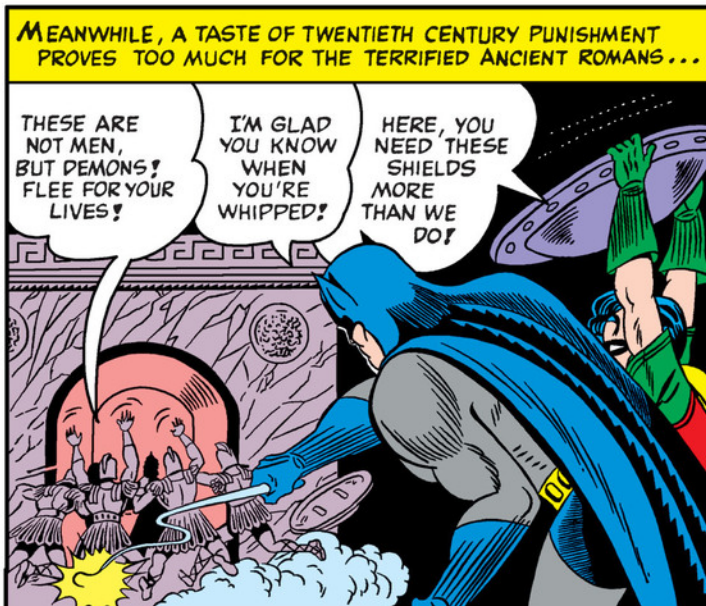


THIS IS THE PLACE! GITO DWELLS AT THIS INN!

SOUNDS AS IF SOMETHING'S HAPPENING, ALL RIGHT!

MARCUS'S ROADSIDE REST







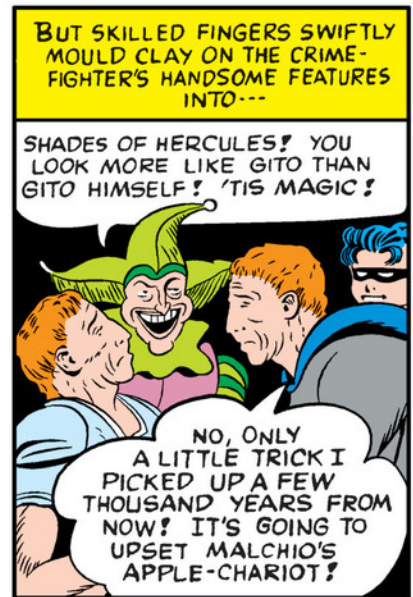
BUT YOU WILL WIN YOUR LAST RACE, GITO! I, BATMANUS, PROMISE YOU THAT!

BUT HOW---



WITH THIS MAKE-UP KIT FROM MY UTILITY BELT! WATCH!

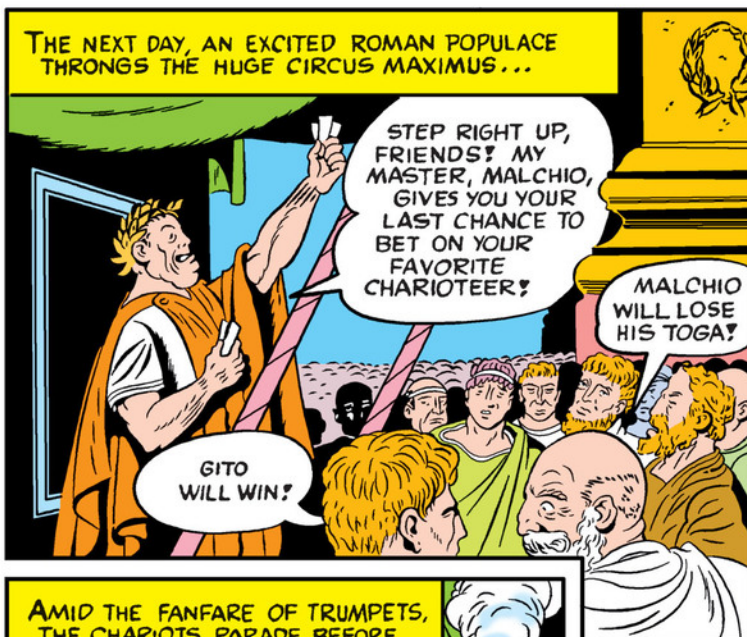
I SEE NOTHING BUT COMMON CLAY! HOW CAN THAT HELP?



BUT SKILLED FINGERS SWIFTLY MOULD CLAY ON THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S HANDSOME FEATURES INTO---

SHADES OF HERCULES! YOU LOOK MORE LIKE GITO THAN GITO HIMSELF! 'TIS MAGIC!

NO, ONLY A LITTLE TRICK I PICKED UP A FEW THOUSAND YEARS FROM NOW! IT'S GOING TO UPSET MALCHIO'S APPLE-CHARIOT!

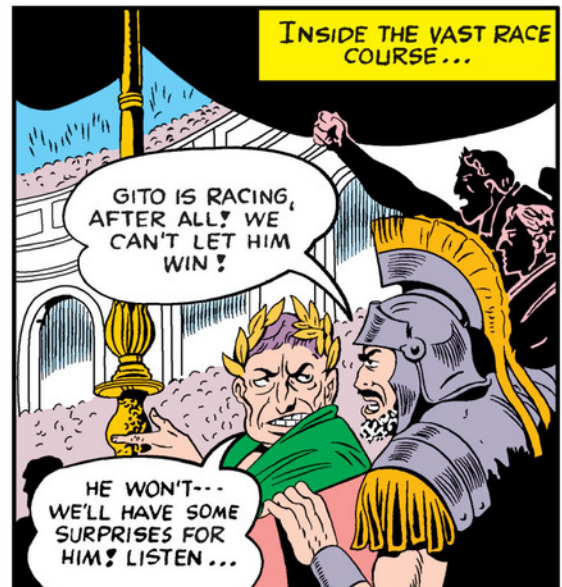


THE NEXT DAY, AN EXCITED ROMAN POPULACE THROWS THE HUGE CIRCUS MAXIMUS...

STEP RIGHT UP, FRIENDS! MY MASTER, MALCHIO, GIVES YOU YOUR LAST CHANCE TO BET ON YOUR FAVORITE CHARIOTEER!

MALCHIO WILL LOSE HIS TOGA!

GITO WILL WIN!



INSIDE THE VAST RACE COURSE...

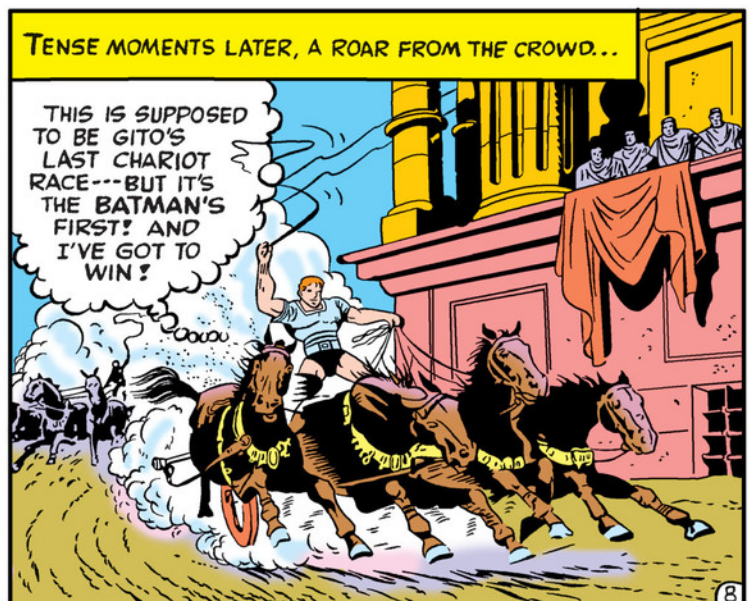
GITO IS RACING, AFTER ALL! WE CAN'T LET HIM WIN!

HE WON'T... WE'LL HAVE SOME SURPRISES FOR HIM! LISTEN...



AMID THE FANFARE OF TRUMPETS, THE CHARIOTS PARADE BEFORE THE CHEERING SPECTATORS!

GITO HAIL GITO!



TENSE MOMENTS LATER, A ROAR FROM THE CROWD...

THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE GITO'S LAST CHARIOT RACE---BUT IT'S THE BATMAN'S FIRST! AND I'VE GOT TO WIN!

BUT, AS THE FLYING STEEDS WHIRL AROUND THE FIRST TURN, PERIL THREATENS THE DISGUISED BATMAN!

SOME OF MALCHIO'S DIRTY WORK! THOSE REINS WERE CLEVERLY SLIT!



THAT'LL FIX HIM!

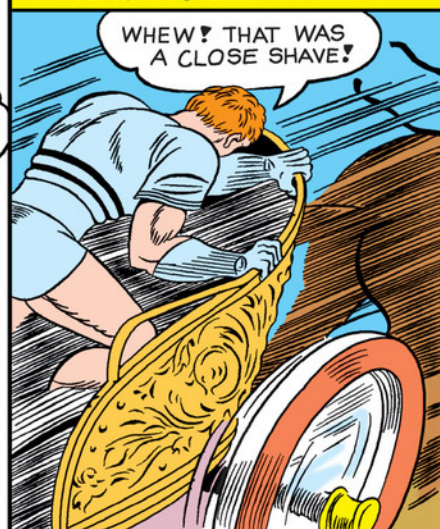
OH-H-H! GITO IS FALLING!

HIS HORSES ARE OUT OF CONTROL! HE'LL BE KILLED!



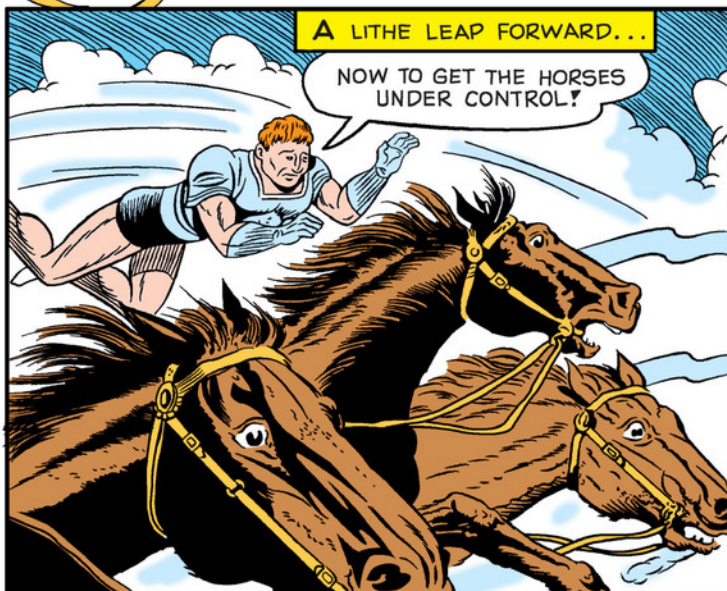
TRAINED MUSCLES STRAIN FOR BALANCE, AND STEEL-STRONG FINGERS CLUTCH FOR SUPPORT...

WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE SHAVE!



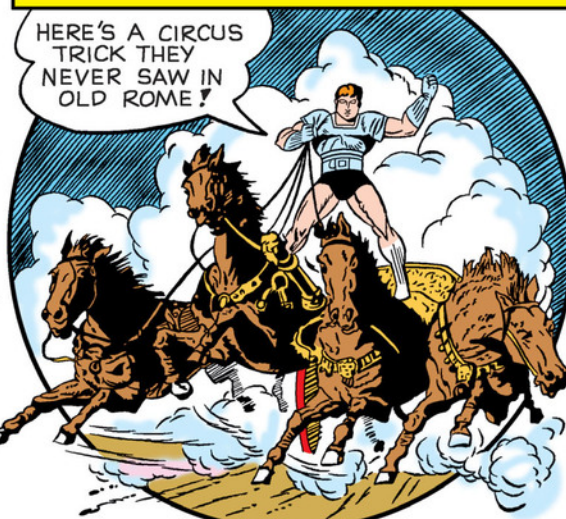
A LITHE LEAP FORWARD...

NOW TO GET THE HORSES UNDER CONTROL!



...AND THE BATMAN IS IN THE RACE AGAIN!

HERE'S A CIRCUS TRICK THEY NEVER SAW IN OLD ROME!



MALCHIO THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING! I'LL WAIT UNTIL HE COMES PAST ME--THIS'LL STOP HIM!

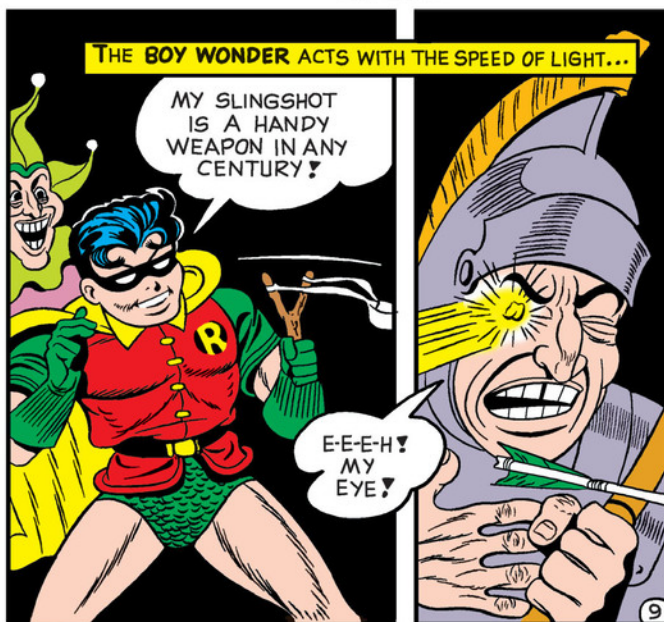
UH-UH! LITTLE WILLIAM TELL IS UP TO NO GOOD! I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING FAST!

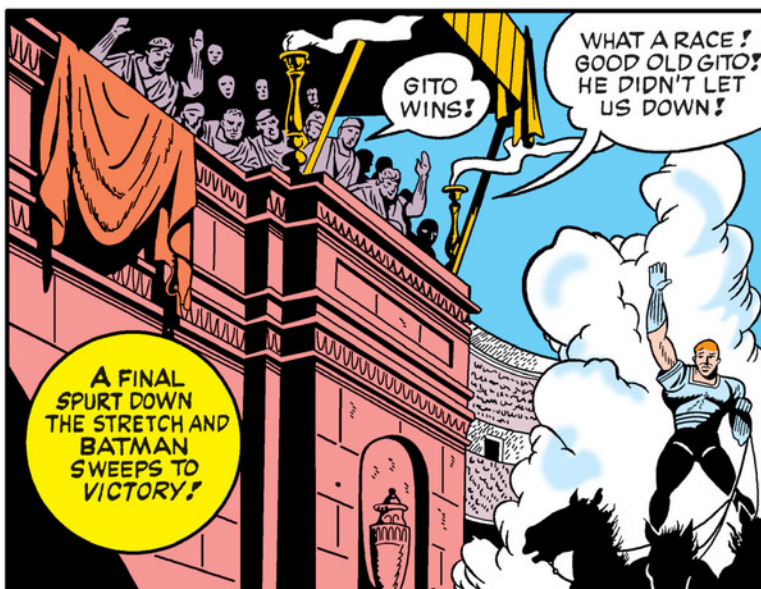


THE BOY WONDER ACTS WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT...

MY SLINGSHOT IS A HANDY WEAPON IN ANY CENTURY!

E-E-EH! MY EYE!





CRAFTY MALCHIO'S FALSE CHARGE BRINGS THE LAW DOWN ON BATMAN...

AS HIGH JUDGE, I PROCLAIM THAT BATMANUS MAY HAVE HIS FREEDOM--- IF HE CAN PROVE HIS INNOCENCE IN TRIAL BY COMBAT! LET HIM FIGHT ON THE MORROW WITH MIGHTY CALVUS!



CALVUS--- ROME'S MIGHTIEST GLADIATOR! WHAT CHANCE WOULD EVEN THE BATMAN HAVE AGAINST HIM?

BUT THE DAUNTLESS CRIME-FIGHTER ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE!

AGREED! BUT MALCHIO MUST GO INTO EXILE-IF I WIN!

A JUST BARGAIN! SO BE IT!



THE NEXT DAY... NEWS OF THE SENSATIONAL CONTEST PACKS THE COLOSSEUM!

RICKETUS, RICKETUS, RAXUS, BATMANUS'LL GIVE HIM THE AX-US! AND MALCHIO'LL START MAKING TRACKS-US!

HOORAY

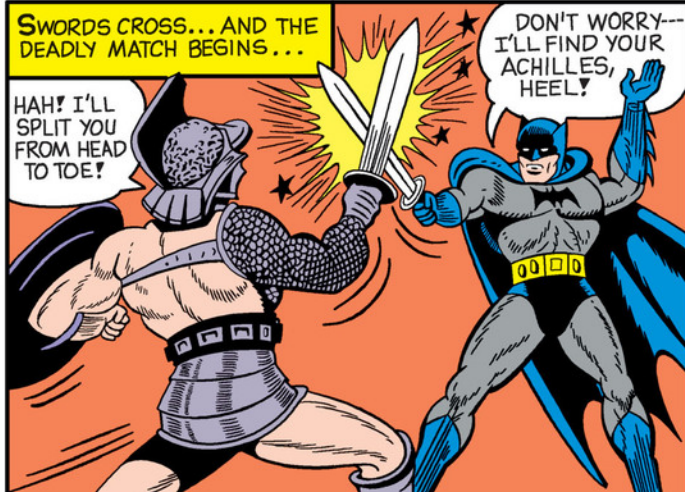
I HOPE THE CHEER I TAUGHT THEM COMES TRUE! BUT IN CASE ANYTHING GOES WRONG, I'D BETTER HOLD ONTO THIS PACKAGE!



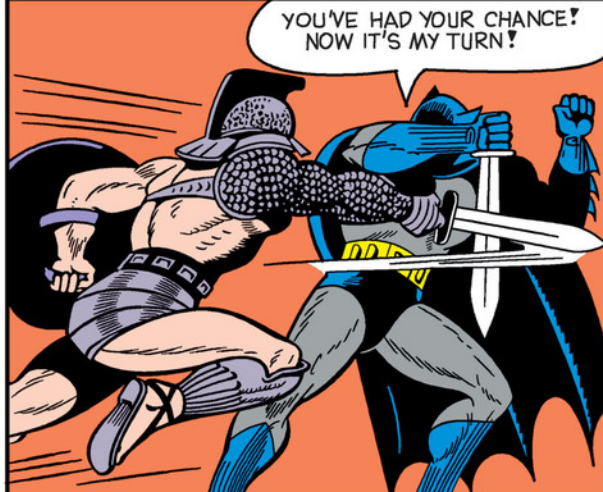
CALVUS LUNGES FORWARD IN A MURDEROUS THRUST---WHICH THE BATMAN NIMBLY PARRIES...

SWORDS CROSS... AND THE DEADLY MATCH BEGINS...

HAH! I'LL SPLIT YOU FROM HEAD TO TOE!



DON'T WORRY--- I'LL FIND YOUR ACHILLES, HEEL!



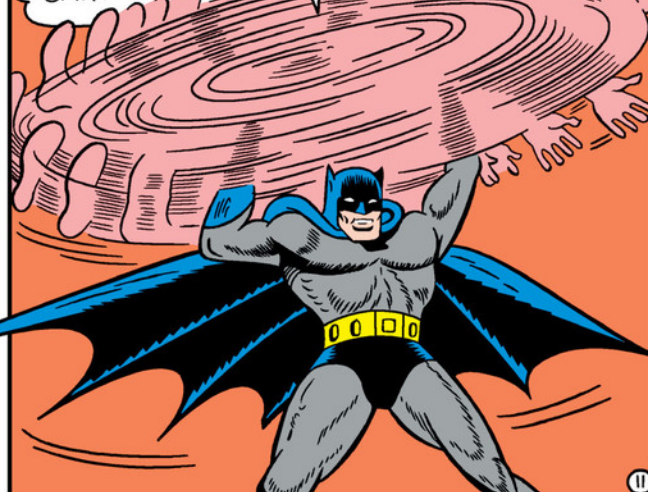
YOU'VE HAD YOUR CHANCE! NOW IT'S MY TURN!

A LIGHTNING FLIP OF A COILED-SPRING WRIST, AND THE BATMAN... MASTER DUELIST... DISARMS HIS GIANT OPPONENT...

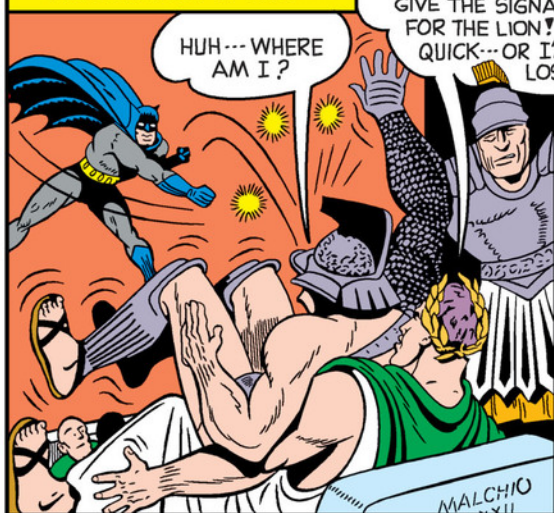


SOMEDAY, MY FRIEND, A SWORDSMAN OF THE FUTURE IS GOING TO INVENT THIS SLICK STROKE! YOU JUST SAW A PREVIEW!

AND IN THE 20TH CENTURY THIS WILL BE KNOWN AS AN AIRPLANE SPIN!



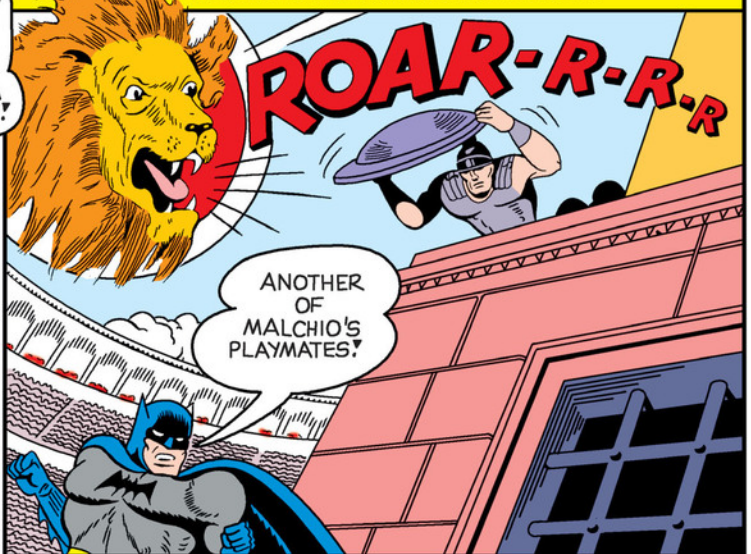
A MIGHTY HEAVE, AND CALVUS FLIES THROUGH THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE...



HUH... WHERE AM I?

OUT...AS BATMANUS WOULD SAY...TANTUS, GIVE THE SIGNAL FOR THE LION! QUICK...OR I'M LOST!

AN ANGRY ROAR ROCKS THE THRONED ARENA, AND THE BATMAN WHIRLS TO FACE A MAN-EATING LION!



ANOTHER OF MALCHIO'S PLAYMATES?

SUDDENLY... A COWARDLY BLOW FROM ABOVE...



GOT HIM!

THAT MURDERING RAT, MALCHIO! I ONLY HOPE THESE GADGETS WORK! LUCKY I MADE THEM LAST NIGHT!

BUT A SMALL CLOAKED FIGURE FLASHES DOWN LIKE A METEOR FROM THE SKY...



GOOD OLD ROBIN!

FEVERISHLY, ROBIN CLAWS OPEN HIS PACKAGE, STRIKES A MATCH FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, AND...



A LITTLE SALTPETER, CHARCOAL AND SULPHUR... AND I'VE GOT SOME HOME-MADE ROMAN-CANDLES! THIS IS THE RIGHT CITY TOO!

GRR-R

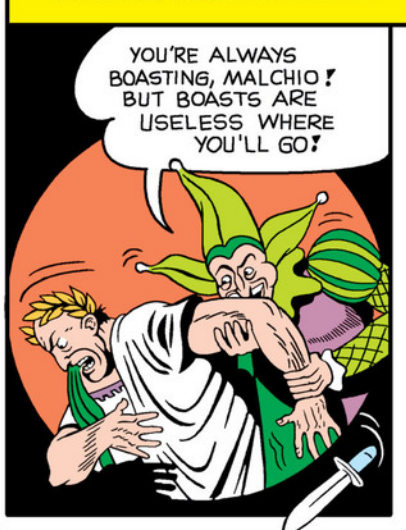


NOTHING LIKE A HOTFOOT TO GET RID OF A HUNGRY LION!

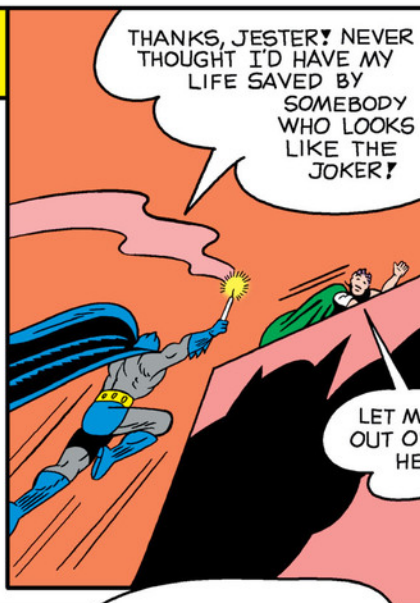


I'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU, MYSELF, CURSED BATMANUS!

BUT THE ROMAN CLOWN INTERCEPTS
MALCHIO'S DESPERATE PLAN...

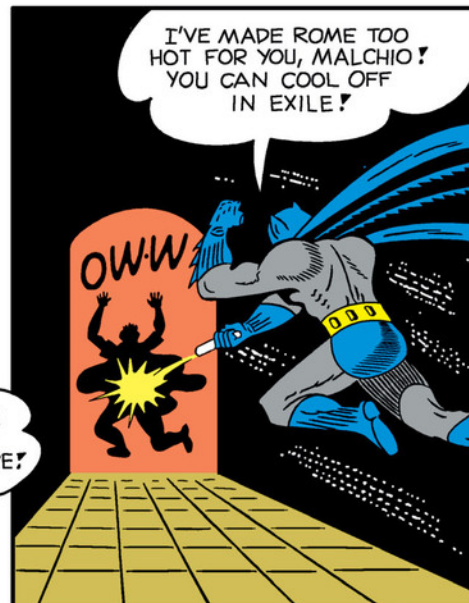


YOU'RE ALWAYS
BOASTING, MALCHIO!
BUT BOASTS ARE
USELESS WHERE
YOU'LL GO!



THANKS, JESTER! NEVER
THOUGHT I'D HAVE MY
LIFE SAVED BY
SOMEBODY
WHO LOOKS
LIKE THE
JOKER!

LET ME
OUT OF
HERE!



I'VE MADE ROME TOO
HOT FOR YOU, MALCHIO!
YOU CAN COOL OFF
IN EXILE!

LATER, AT A VICTORY CELEBRATION...



ONE THING I WOULD LIKE TO ASK OF
YOU, BRAVE BATMANUS! CAN
YOU TELL US WHO YOU
REALLY ARE?

WELL, I DON'T MIND
TELLING YOU, JESTER!
MY NAME IS BRUCE
WAYNE, AND ROBIN
HERE IS DICK GRAYSON,
MY WARD!

WHAT? BATMAN
REVEALING HIS
PRECIOUS SECRET?!!



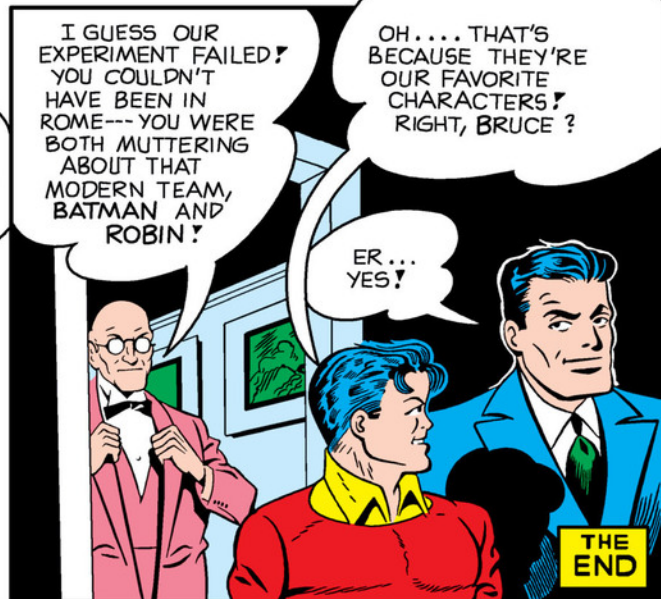
DON'T WORRY, ROBIN! HISTORY
SHOWS THAT OUR IDENTITIES
WERE NEVER BETRAYED!
THERE'S NO RECORD OF IT!
THIS IS ONE TIME WHERE
THE TRUTH CAN'T
HURT!

THEIR "ROMAN HOLIDAY" OVER, THE DYNAMIC DUO
ZOOMS BACK THROUGH THE FUNNEL OF TIME
TO 1942!



HELLO,
PROFESSOR!

AH! IT'S ABOUT TIME
YOU CAME OUT
OF YOUR TRANCE!
I WAS GETTING
WORRIED!



I GUESS OUR
EXPERIMENT FAILED!
YOU COULDN'T
HAVE BEEN IN
ROME--- YOU WERE
BOTH MUTTERING
ABOUT THAT
MODERN TEAM,
BATMAN AND
ROBIN!

OH.... THAT'S
BECAUSE THEY'RE
OUR FAVORITE
CHARACTERS!
RIGHT, BRUCE?

ER...
YES!

THE
END

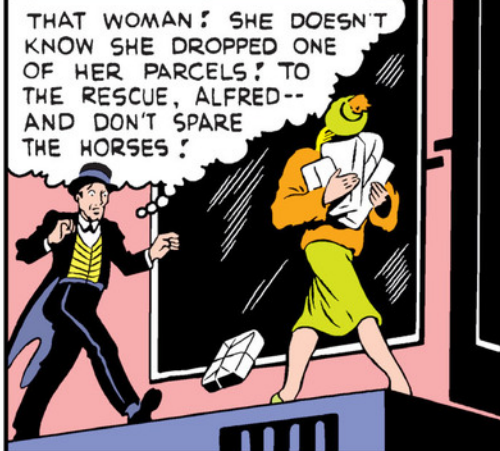


FRUSTRATED AMBITION BURNS IN THE SOUL OF ALFRED, THE WAYNE BUTLER, FOR HE DREAMS OF BEING A GREAT DETECTIVE, FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HIS FAMED MASTERS, **BATMAN AND ROBIN...**



ON HIS DAY OFF, ALFRED IS FOND OF STROLLING ALONG THE BROAD THOROUGHFARES OF GOTHAM'S SHOPPING DISTRICT...

THAT WOMAN! SHE DOESN'T KNOW SHE DROPPED ONE OF HER PARCELS! TO THE RESCUE, ALFRED-- AND DON'T SPARE THE HORSES!

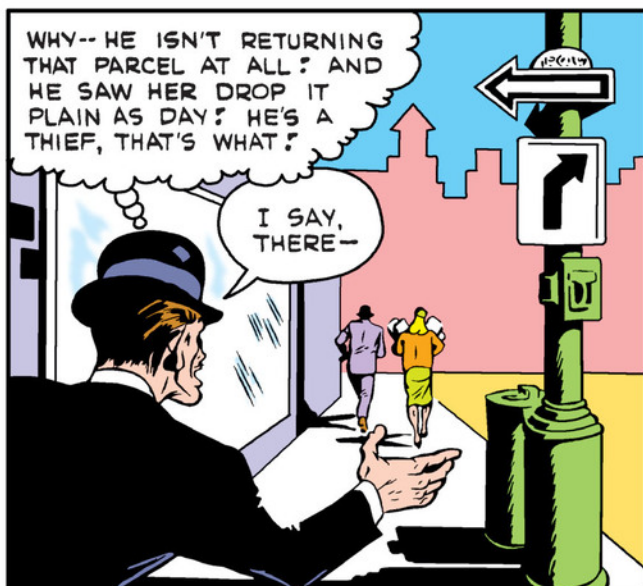


WELL-- THAT MAN BEAT ME TO IT! ALAS-- HOW CAN MY INGRAINED CHIVALRY KEEP PACE WITH THE SPEED OF THIS MODERN AGE?



WHY-- HE ISN'T RETURNING THAT PARCEL AT ALL! AND HE SAW HER DROP IT PLAIN AS DAY! HE'S A THIEF, THAT'S WHAT!

I SAY, THERE--



YOU! COME BACK WITH THAT PARCEL! STOP, THIEF! I DECLARE-- HE'S MAKING A BOLT FOR IT!

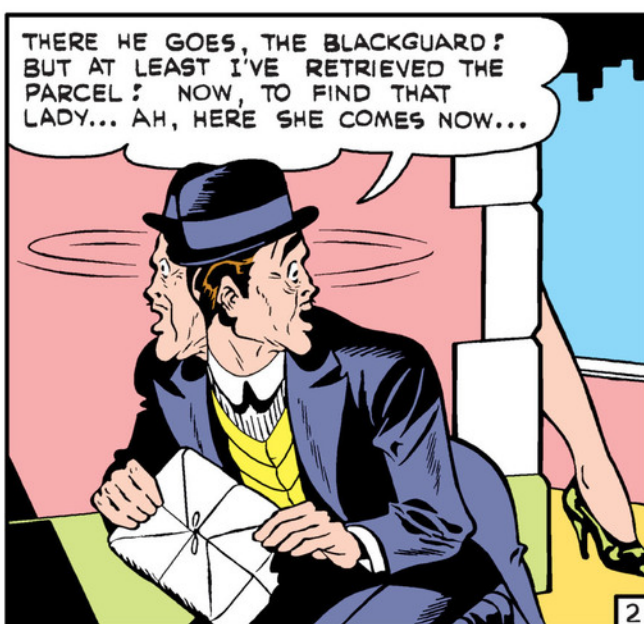


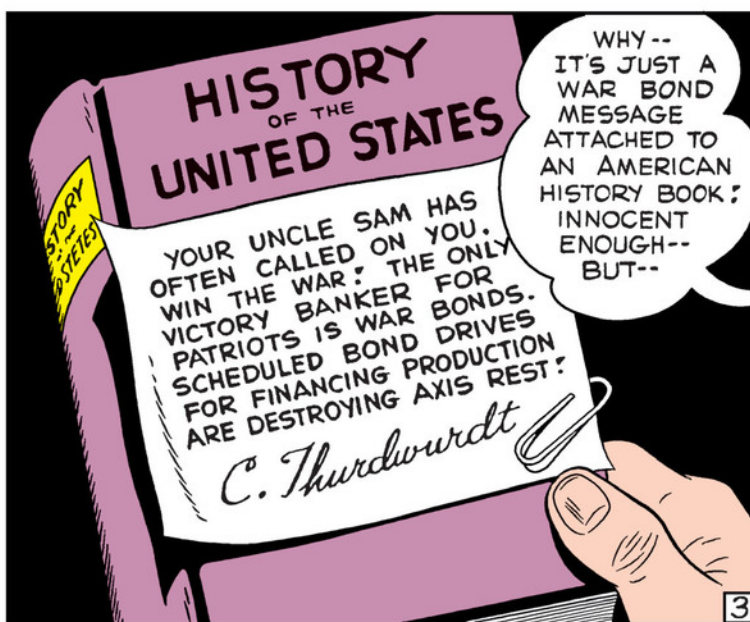
AHA -- I HAVE YOU NOW, YOU SCOUNDREL!

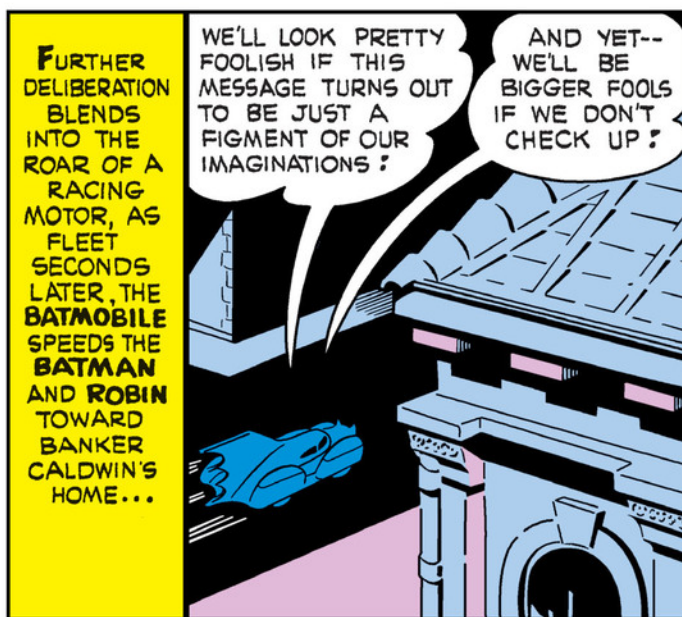
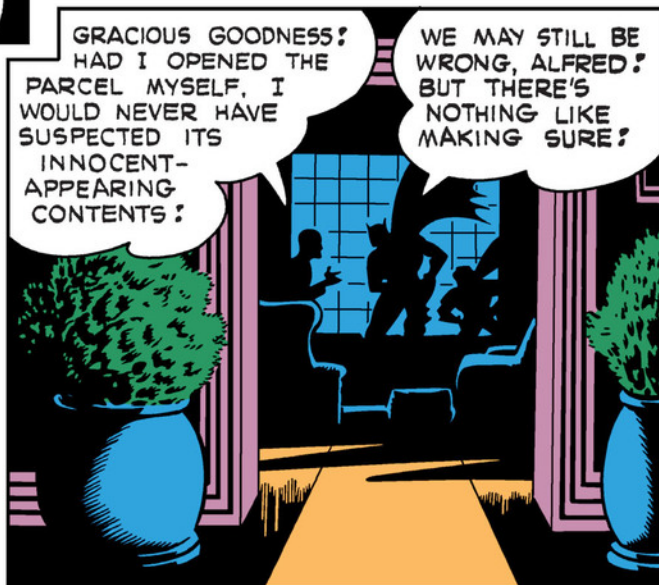
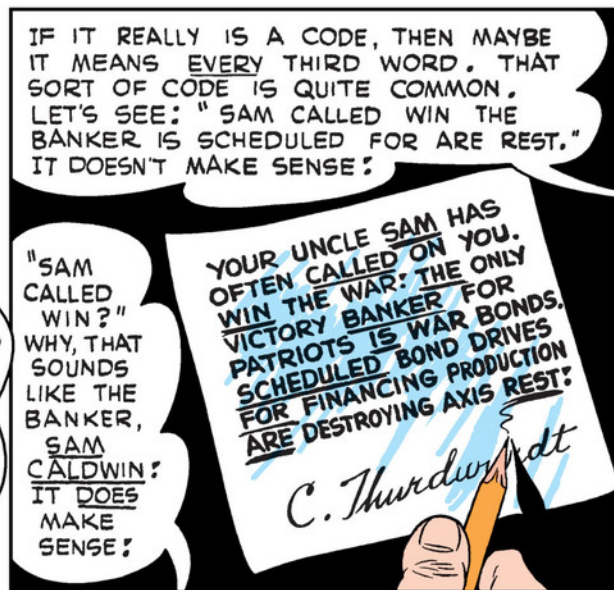
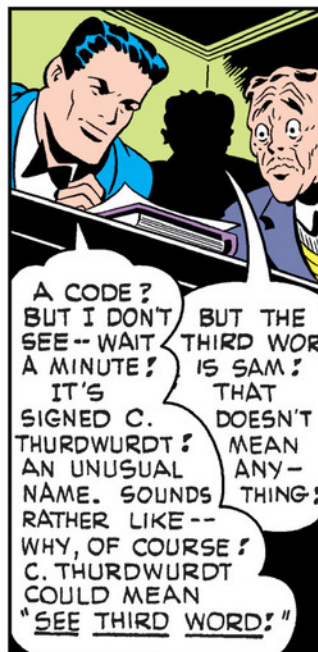
OF ALL DA TOUGH LUCK!

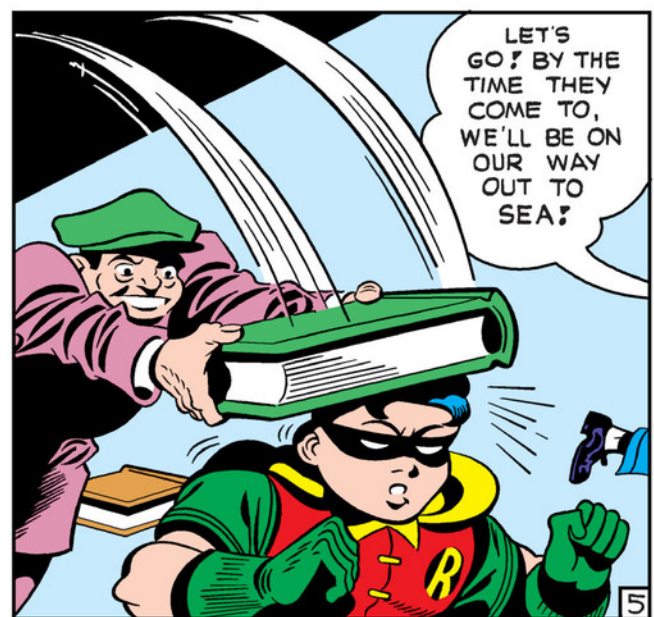
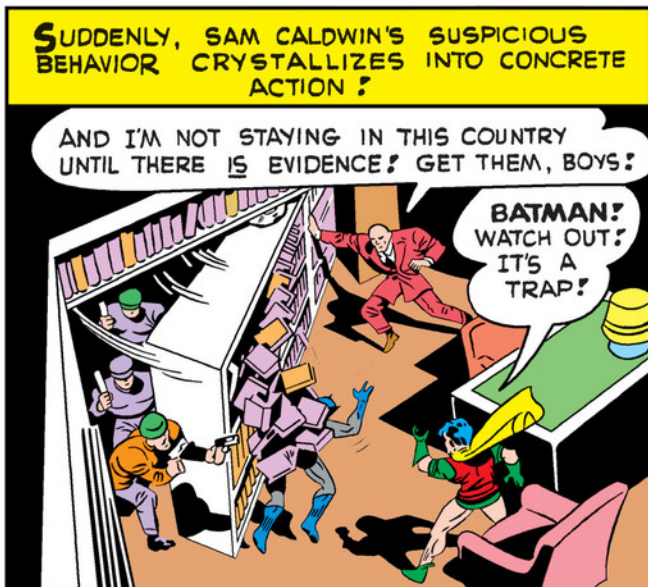
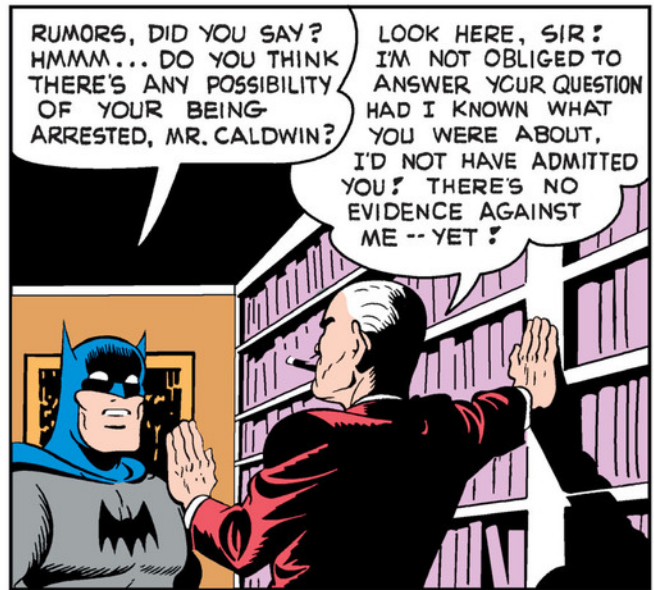
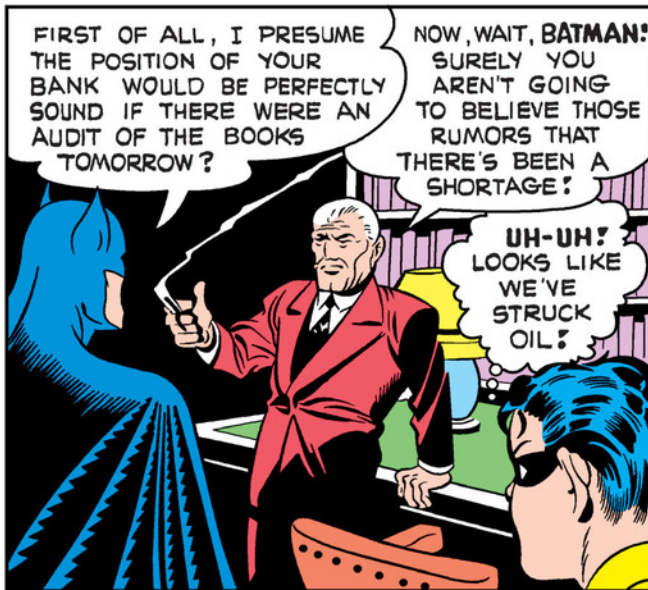


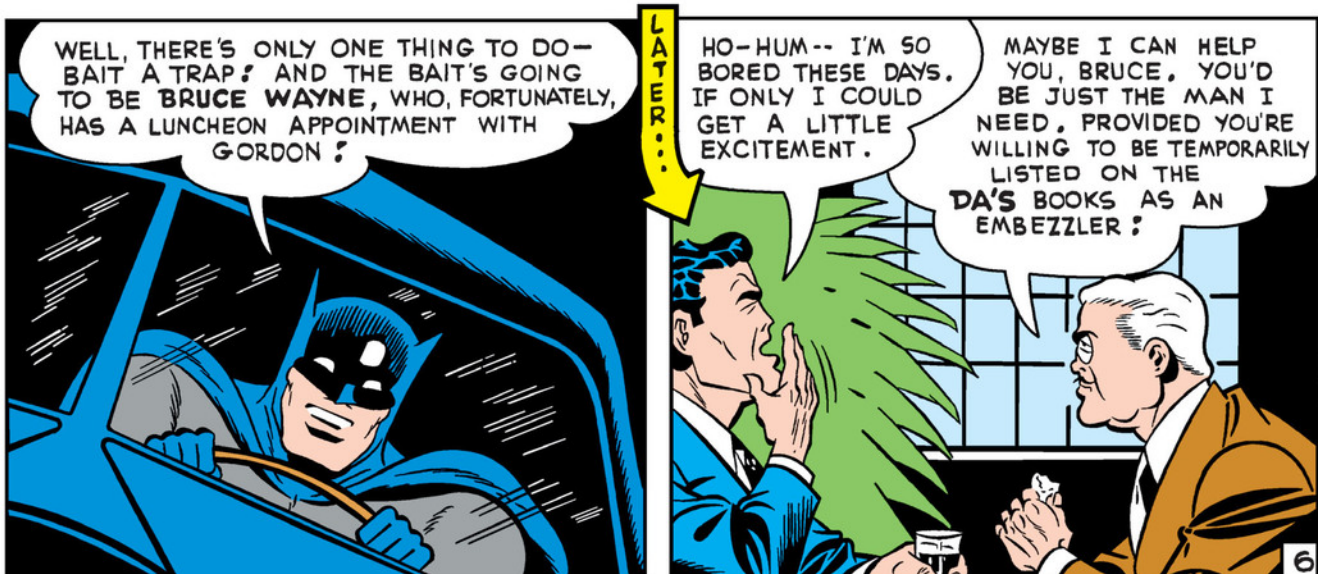
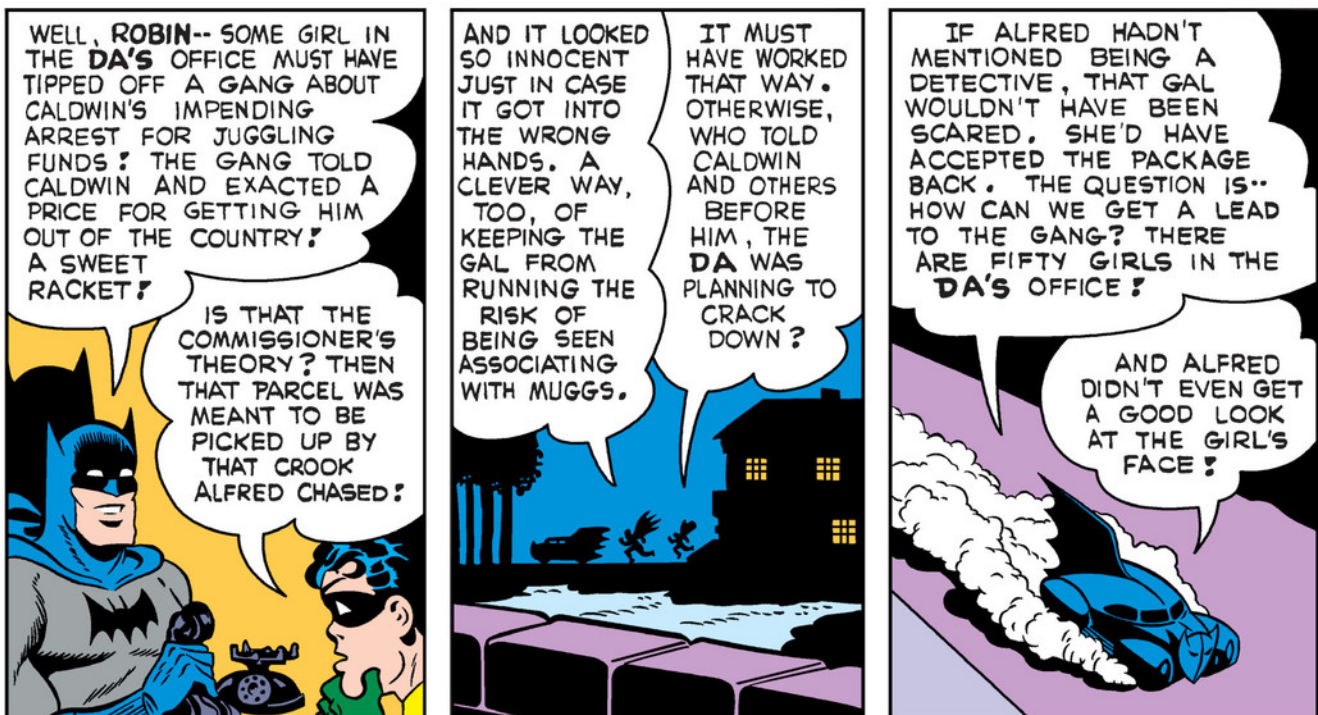
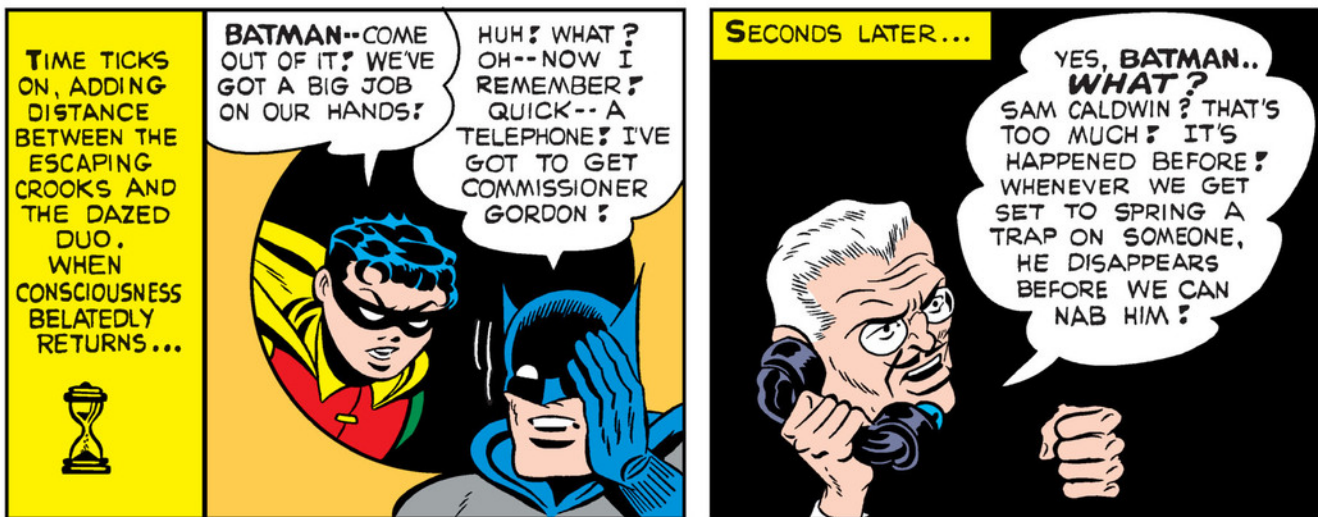
THERE HE GOES, THE BLACKGUARD! BUT AT LEAST I'VE RETRIEVED THE PARCEL! NOW, TO FIND THAT LADY... AH, HERE SHE COMES NOW...



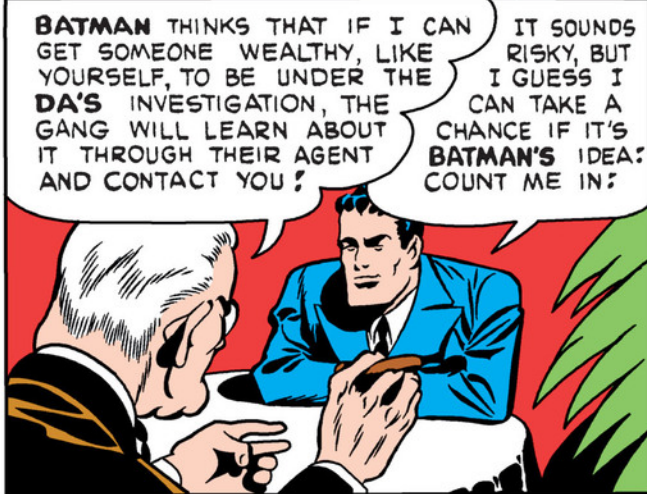




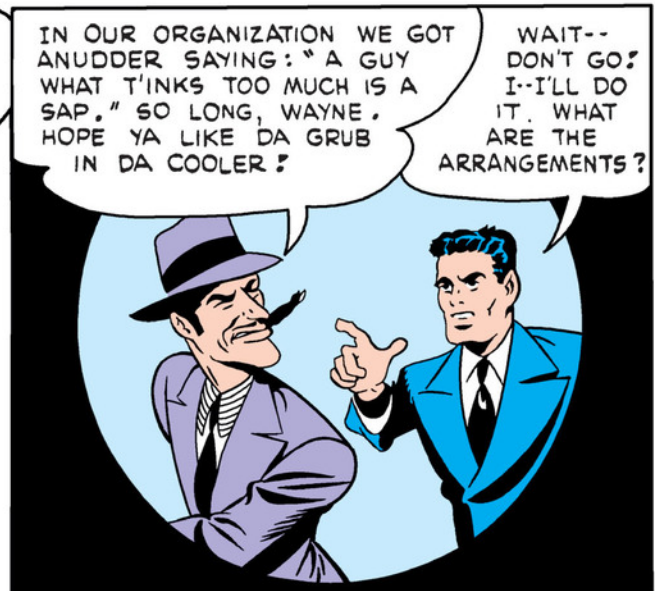
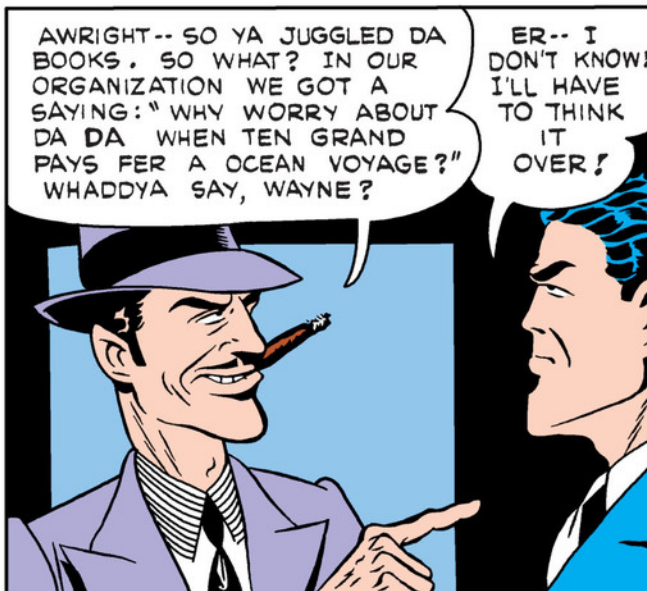
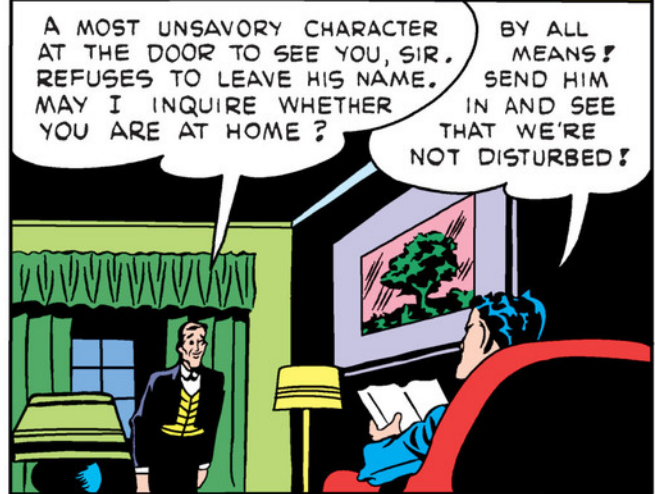


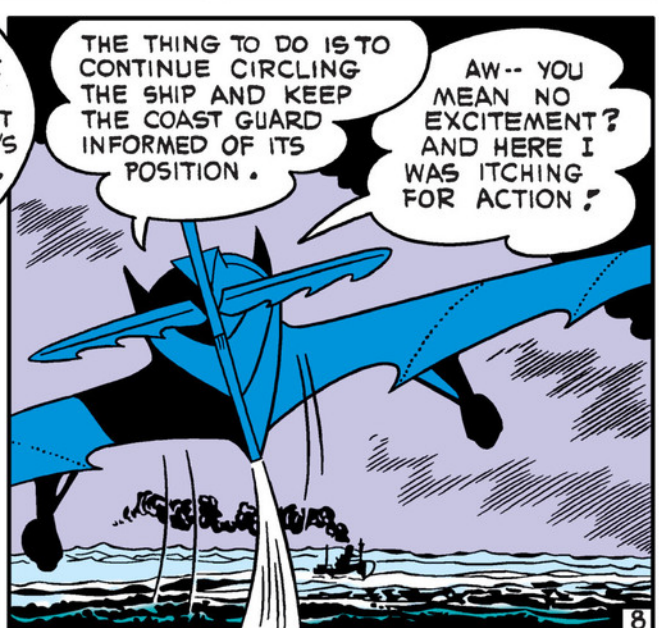
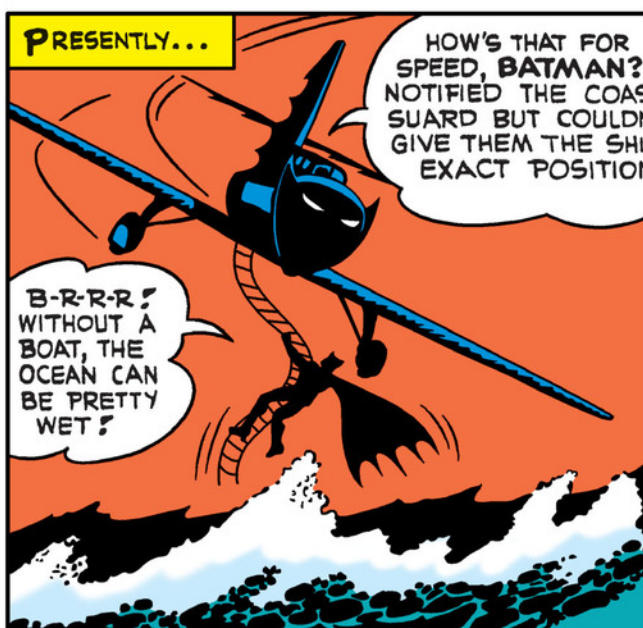
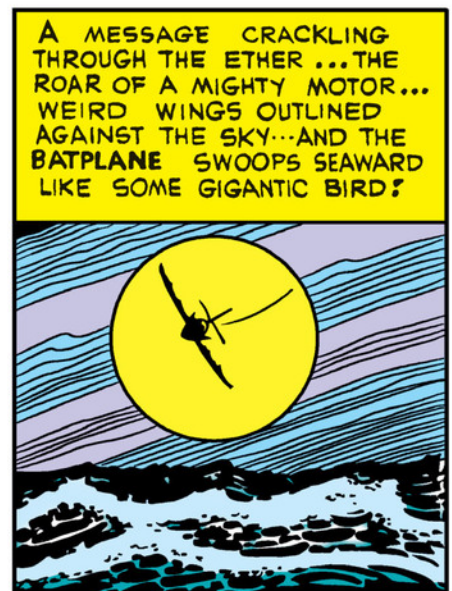
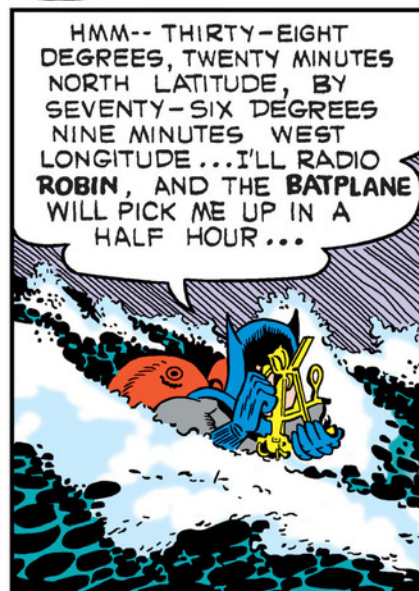
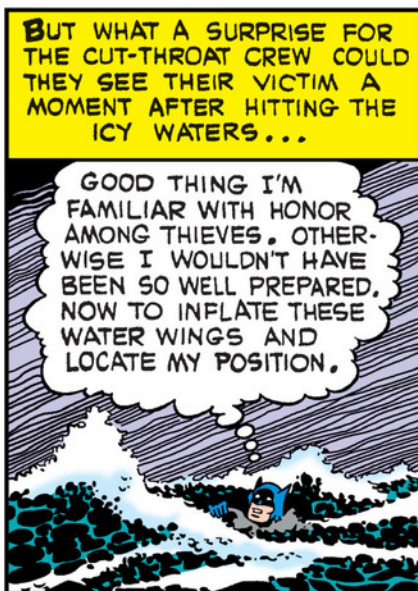
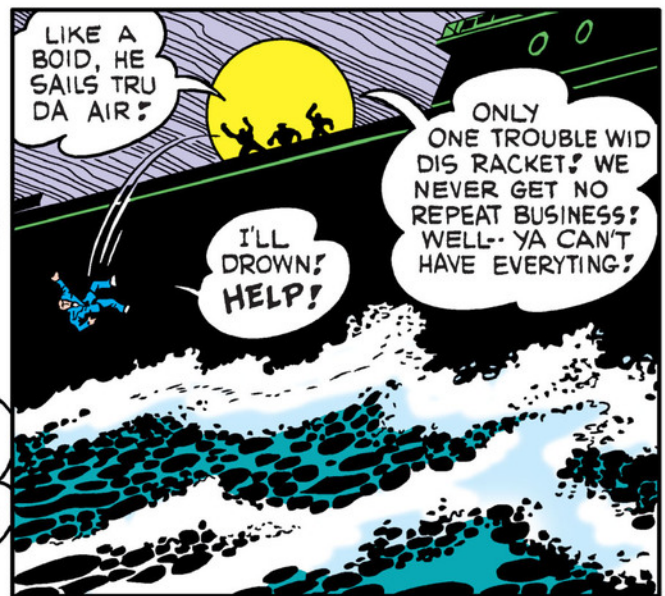
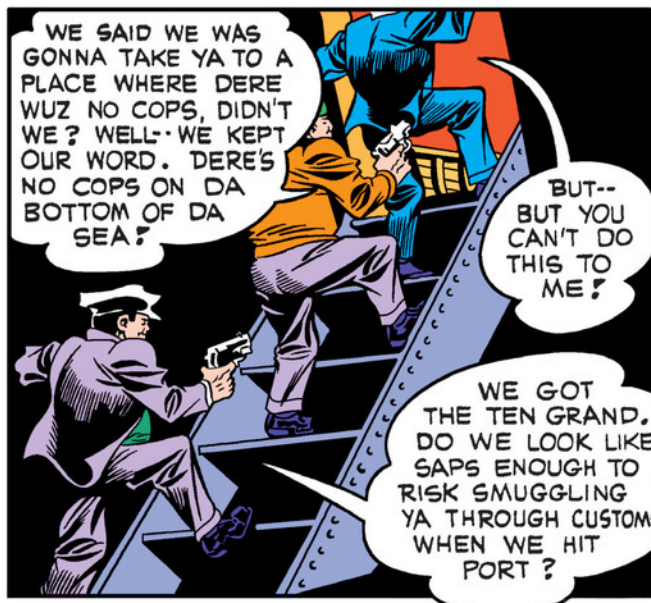


UNAWARE THAT BRUCE WAYNE AND **BATMAN** ARE THE SAME PERSON, GORDON EXPLAINS ABOUT THE GETAWAY GANG ...



THUS, THE STAGE IS SET. AND THE FOLLOWING EVENING AT **BRUCE WAYNE'S** HOME ...





BUT ROBIN IS NOT GOING TO BE DISAPPOINTED LONG, FOR ON THE VESSEL'S DECK...

THAT SURE IS A QUEER-LOOKIN' PLANE. LIKE A BAT? SAY - IT'S THE **BATPLANE**! BUT WHAT'S IT DOING WAY OUT HERE?

CAPTAIN! OUR RADIO JUST PICKED UP A MESSAGE FROM THE **BATPLANE**. THEY'RE SENDING OUR POSITION TO THE COAST GUARD!

SO IT'S US THEY'RE AFTER, IS IT? THERE MUSTA BEEN A LEAK SOMEWHERE! MAN THE GUNS! WE'LL BLAST THEM SNOOPIN' BILGE RATS OUTA THE SKY!

THE CAPTAIN'S ORDER IS OBEYED!

WHILE IN THE BATPLANE...

THEY'RE FIRING AT US, **ROBIN**! THEY MUST HAVE PICKED UP OUR MESSAGE. HAVE TO GAIN ALTITUDE FAST!

THE RADIO! IT'S GONE DEAD! IT'S BEEN HIT!

NOW WHAT, **BATMAN**? HOW ARE WE GOING TO KEEP THE COAST GUARD NOTIFIED?

YOU WANTED ACTION, **ROBIN**-- SO GET SET! I'M GOING TO TRY A PERPENDICULAR LANDING ON THE SHIP'S DECK! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE RADIO ROOM!

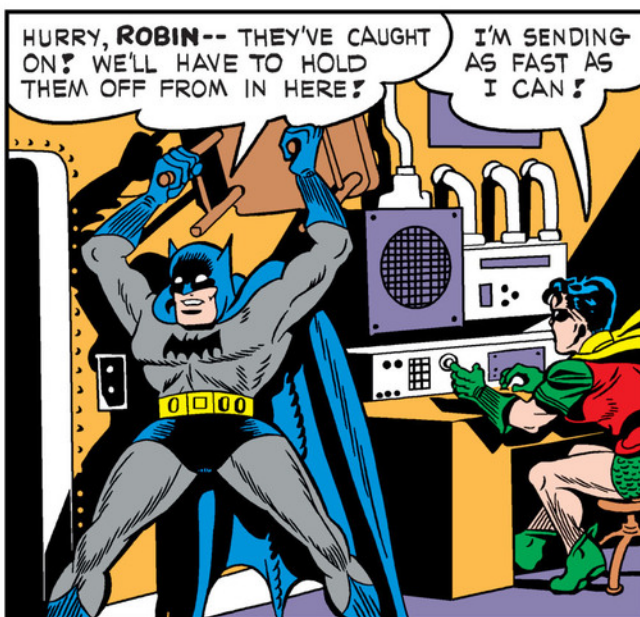
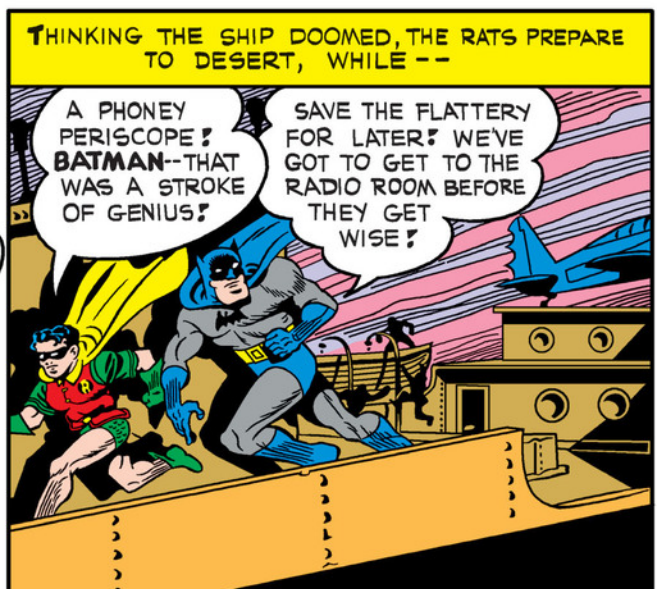
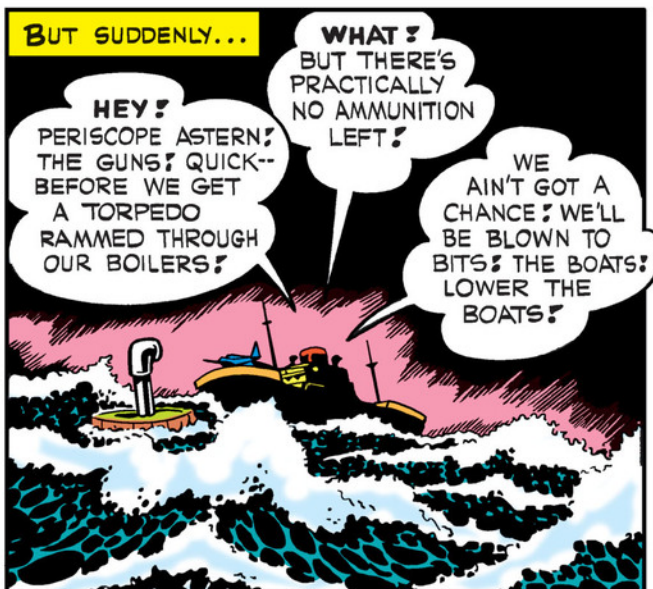
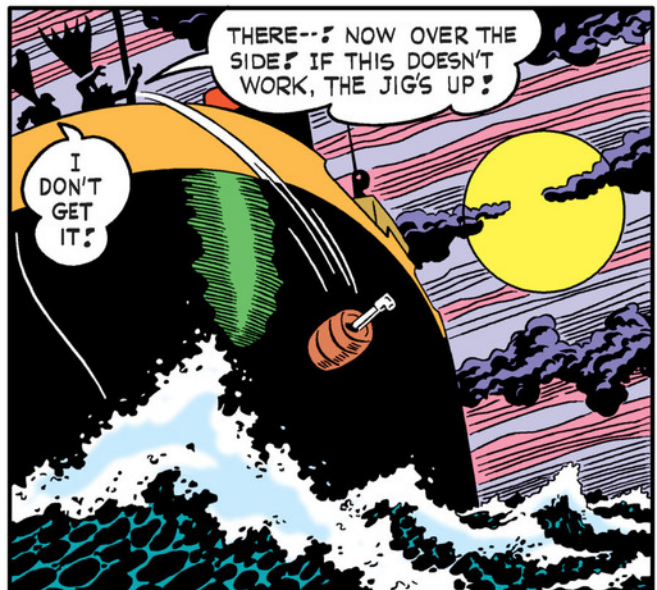
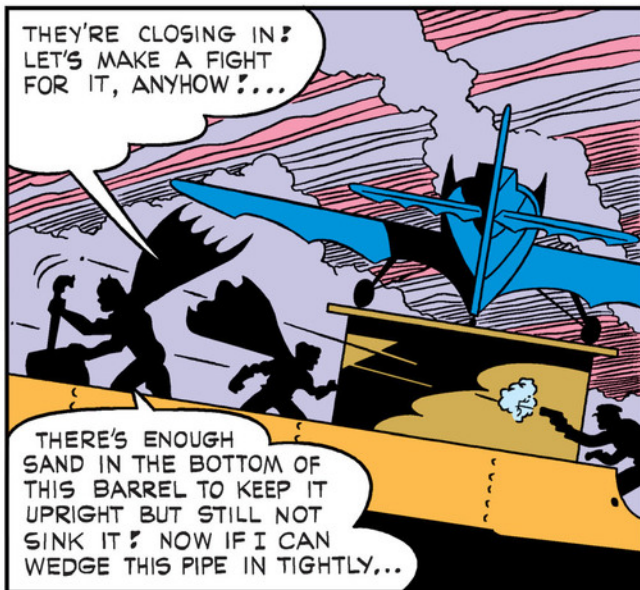
SKILLED HANDS AND IRON NERVES MIRACULOUSLY MANEUVER THE BATPLANE THROUGH A HAIL OF DEATH UNTIL IT HOVERS DIRECTLY OVER THE VESSEL'S STERN!

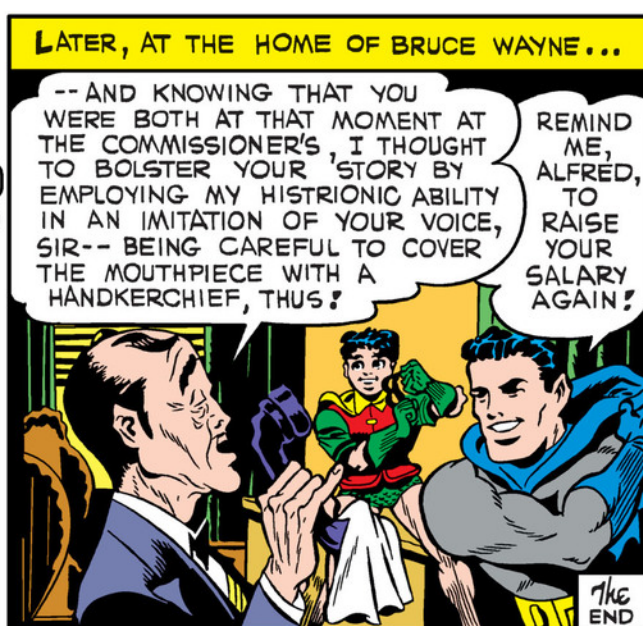
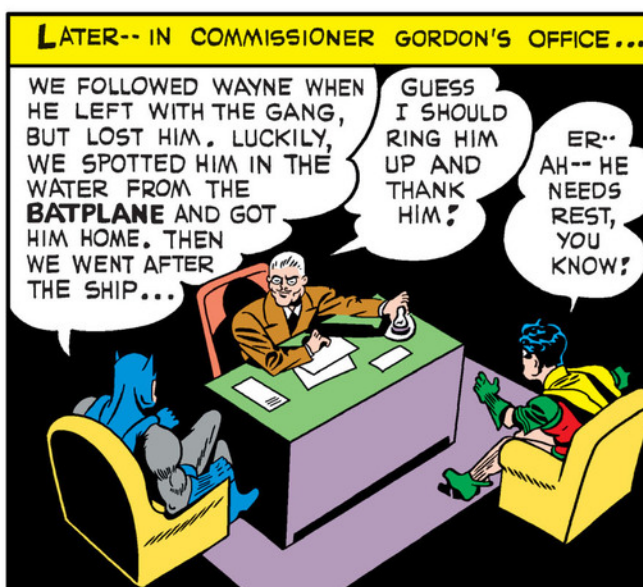
I NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT! THEY'RE LANDIN'. CEASE FIRING! THEY'RE TOO LOW!

NOW WE GOT 'EM WHERE WE WANT 'EM!

LOOK AT THEM! TEN TO ONE! AND ARMED TO THE TEETH!

WHAT'S WORSE, THEY'RE BETWEEN US AND THE RADIO! WE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE MAKING A RUSH FOR IT! BUT WAIT-- THAT PIPE!





The Adventures of ALFRED

By **BOB KANE**

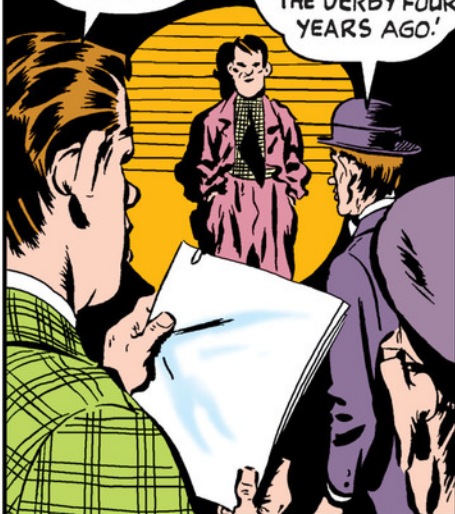
THE UNDERWORLD TREMBLES...
CROOKS SCURRY FOR COVER...
FOR HERE COMES ALFRED
AGAIN - YOUR FAVORITE
BUTLER-DETECTIVE ON
HIS OWN IN...
"POLICE LINE-UP!"



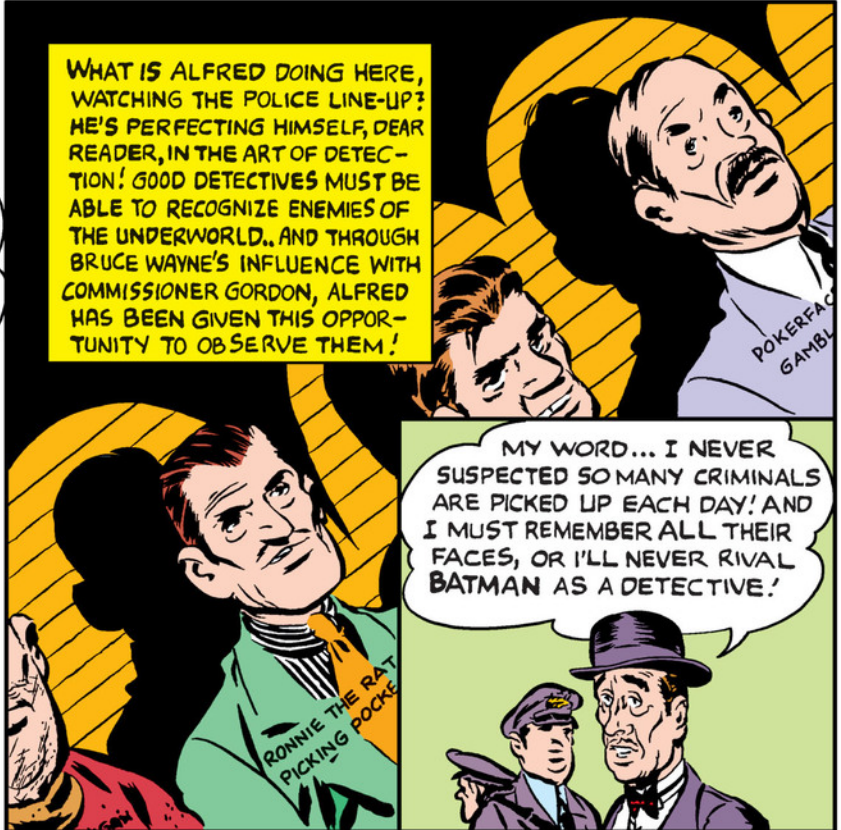
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, A
PITILESS WHITE SPOTLIGHT PICKS
OUT THE SINISTER FEATURES OF
CRIME'S CHOICEST SPECIMENS!

TOOTS
ROLLSTON, ACCUSED
OF LARCENY...
TAKE A GOOD
LOOK AT HIM,
BOYS!

HE SHOULD
BE EASY TO
REMEMBER!
HE'S THE VERY
IMAGE OF THE
HORSE THAT WON
THE DERBY FOUR
YEARS AGO!



WHAT IS ALFRED DOING HERE,
WATCHING THE POLICE LINE-UP?
HE'S PERFECTING HIMSELF, DEAR
READER, IN THE ART OF DETEC-
TION! GOOD DETECTIVES MUST BE
ABLE TO RECOGNIZE ENEMIES OF
THE UNDERWORLD.. AND THROUGH
BRUCE WAYNE'S INFLUENCE WITH
COMMISSIONER GORDON, ALFRED
HAS BEEN GIVEN THIS OPPOR-
TUNITY TO OBSERVE THEM!



MY WORD... I NEVER
SUSPECTED SO MANY CRIMINALS
ARE PICKED UP EACH DAY! AND
I MUST REMEMBER ALL THEIR
FACES, OR I'LL NEVER RIVAL
BATMAN AS A DETECTIVE!

THAT NIGHT, SINISTER FEATURES PERFORM A WITCHES' DANCE, AS ALFRED TOSSES IN RESTLESS SLUMBER!



AND THE CONFUSION CARRIES OVER INTO THE NEXT DAY...



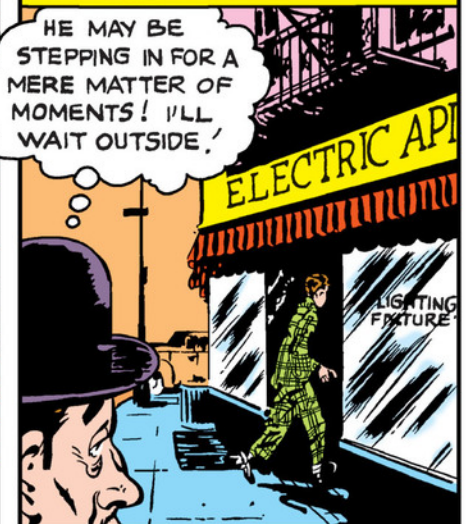
UNEXPECTEDLY...



BUT PERHAPS I MAY BE ABLE TO PICK UP SOME INCrimINATING EVIDENCE AGAINST HIM! I'LL SHADOW HIM.



AND ALFRED CLINGS TO THE TRAIL LIKE A LEECH.



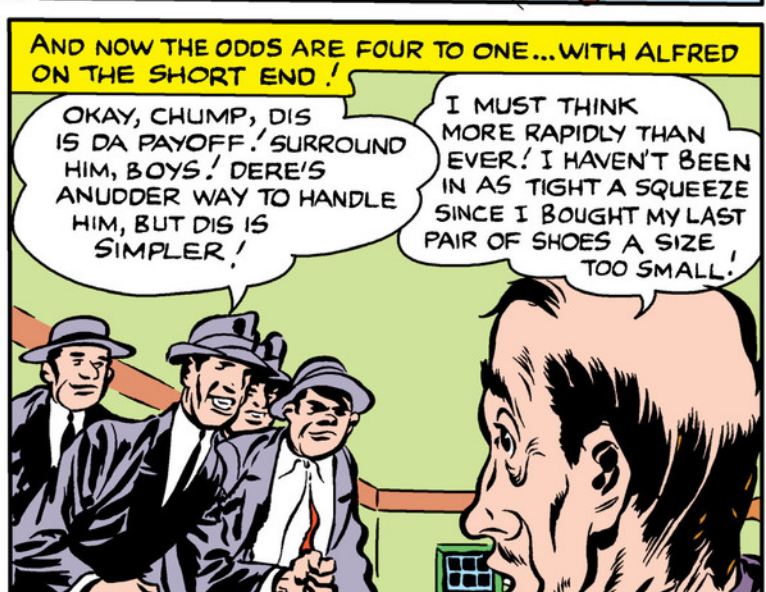
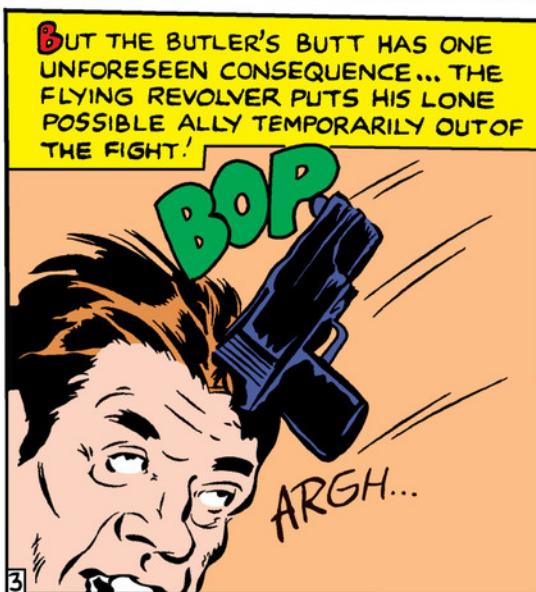
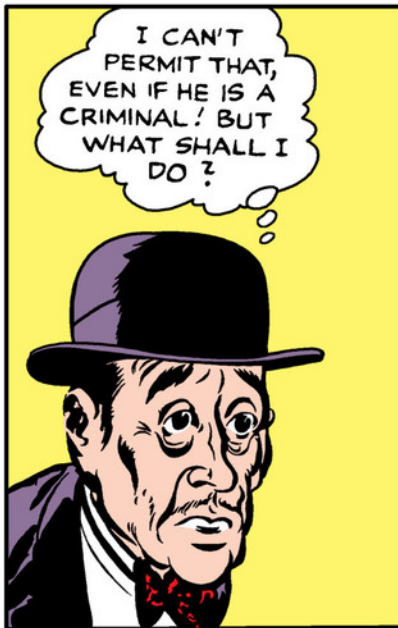
BUT AS TIME PASSES ...

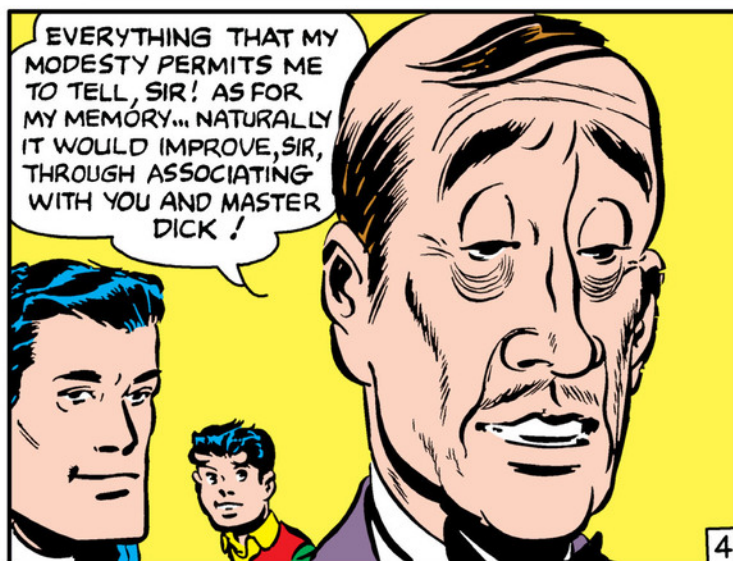
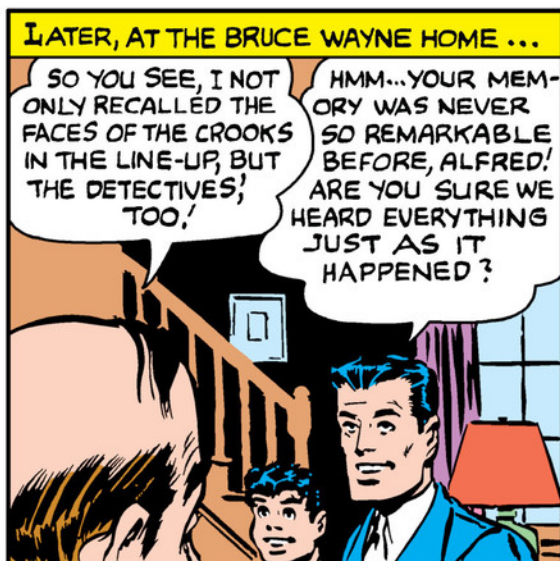
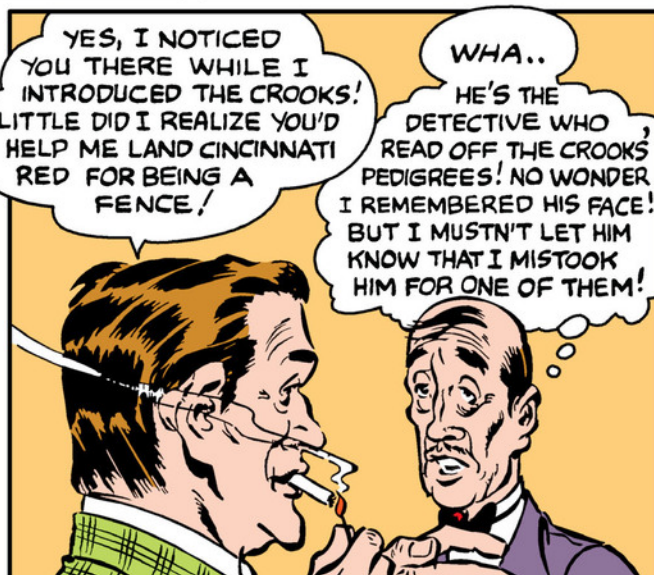
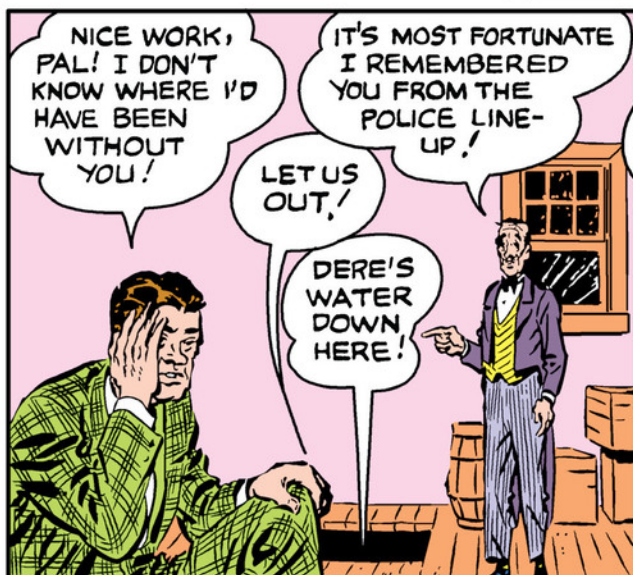
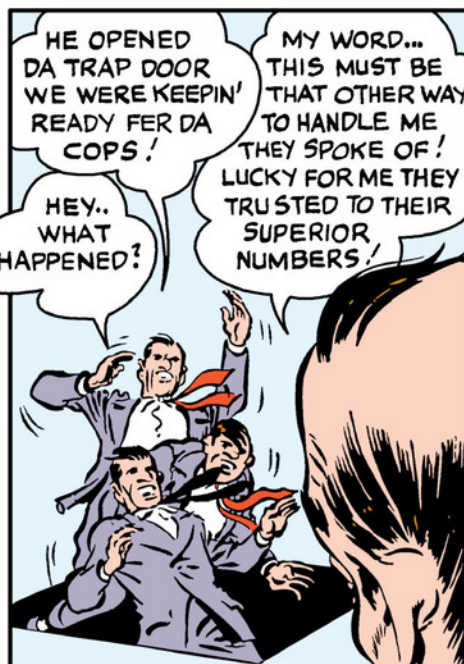


I DIDN'T EXPECT YA HERE, CHUM... BUT I'M SURE GLAD YA SHOWED UP! I GOT SOME LEAD SLUGS WAITIN' FOR YA!

BY JOVE ... HE'S GOING TO SHOOT HIM!





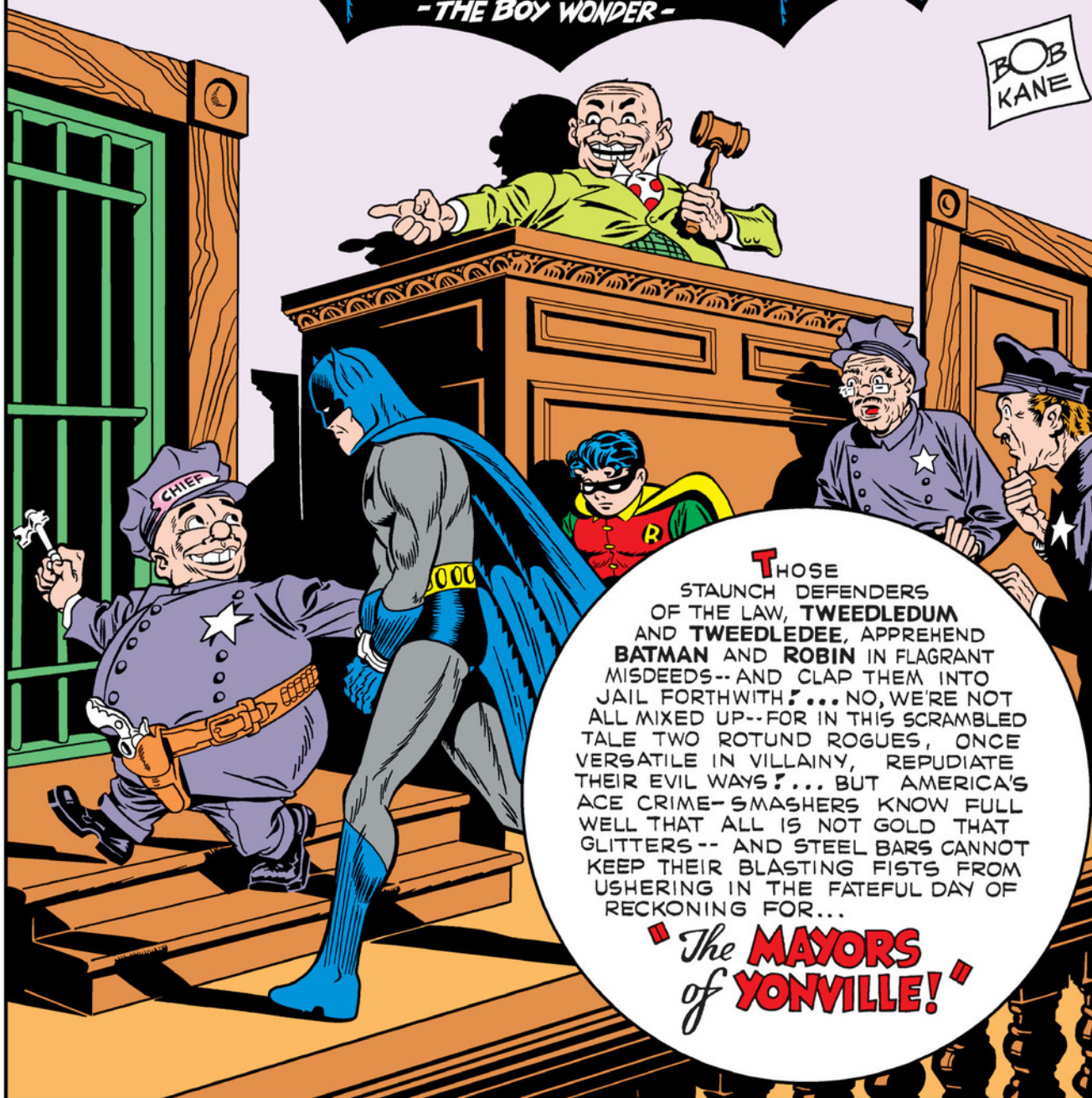


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

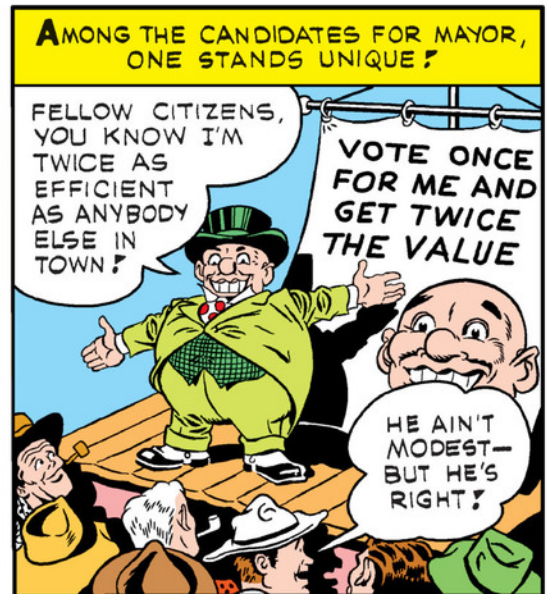
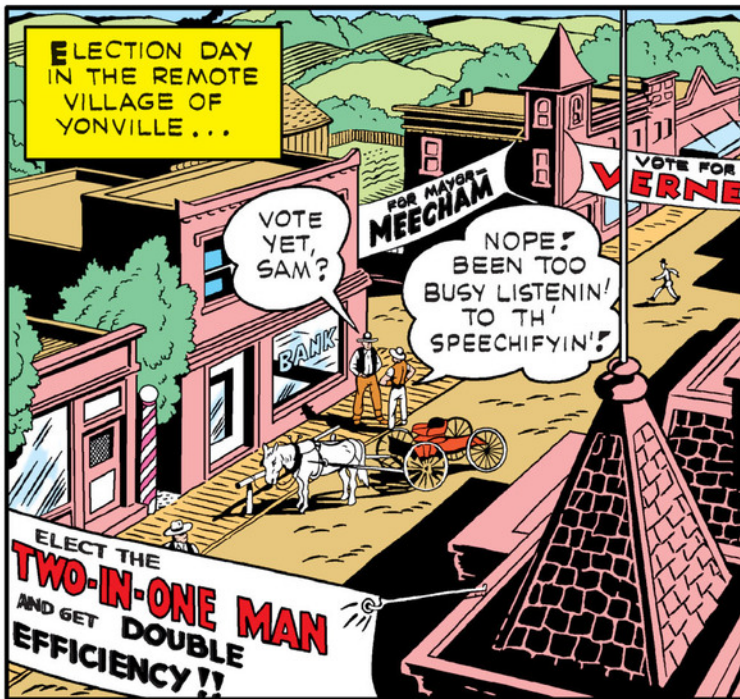
- THE BOY WONDER -

BOB
KANE

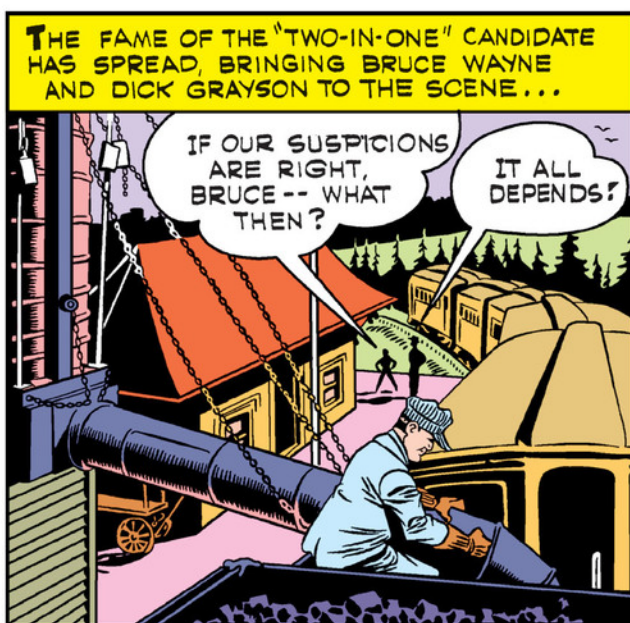
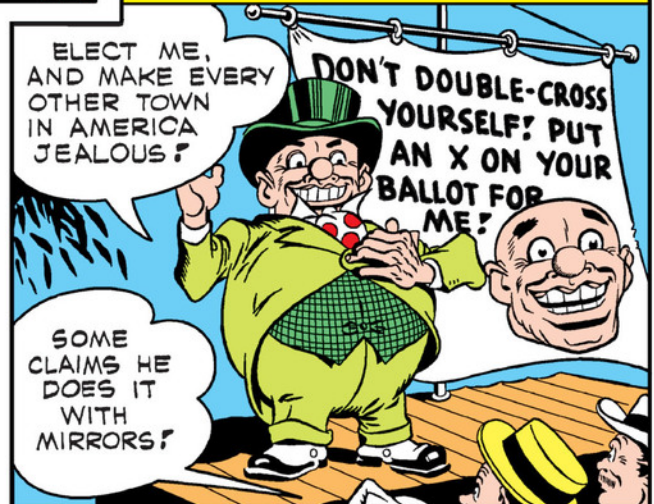


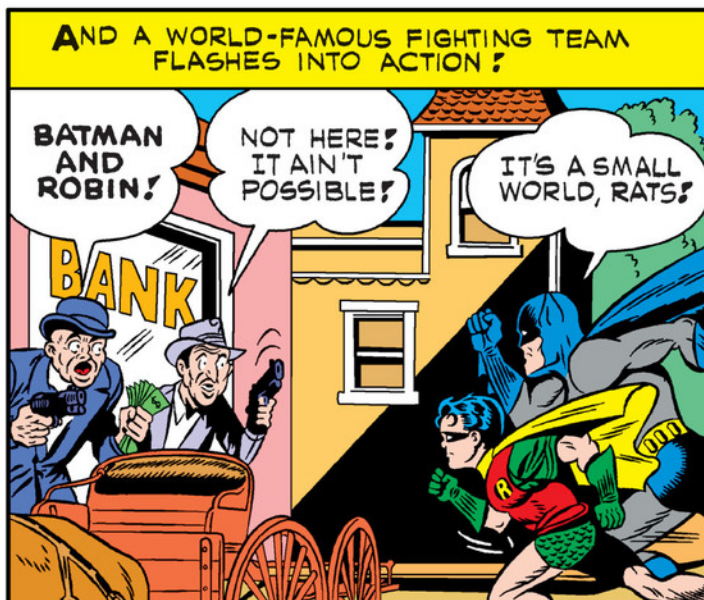
THOSE
STAUNCH DEFENDERS
OF THE LAW, **TWEEDLEDUM**
AND **TWEEDLEDEE**, APPREHEND
BATMAN AND **ROBIN** IN FLAGRANT
MISDEEDS--AND CLAP THEM INTO
JAIL FORTHWITH!... NO, WE'RE NOT
ALL MIXED UP--FOR IN THIS SCRAMBLED
TALE TWO ROTUND ROGUES, ONCE
VERSATILE IN VILLAINY, REPUDIATE
THEIR EVIL WAYS!... BUT AMERICA'S
ACE CRIME-SMASHERS KNOW FULL
WELL THAT ALL IS NOT GOLD THAT
GLITTERS-- AND STEEL BARS CANNOT
KEEP THEIR BLASTING FISTS FROM
USHERING IN THE FATEFUL DAY OF
RECKONING FOR...

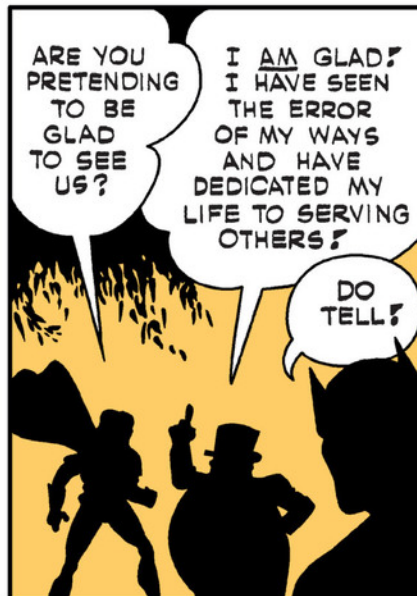
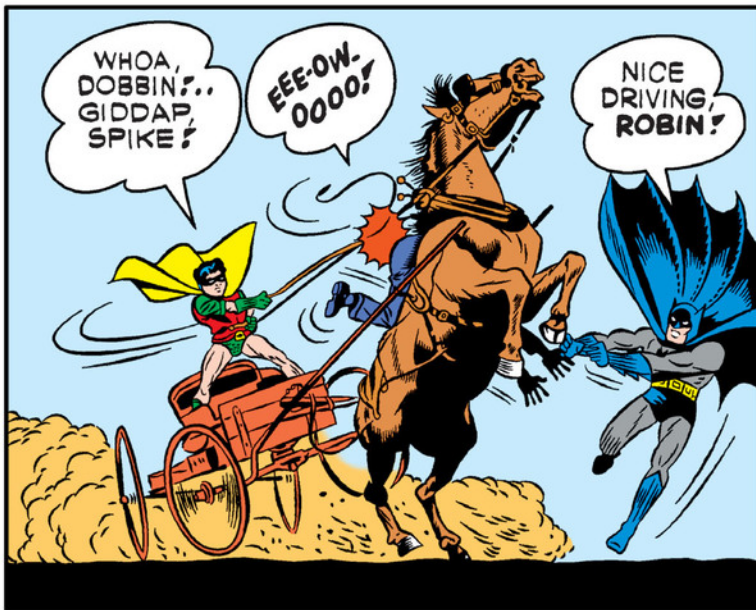
"The **MAYORS**
of **YONVILLE!**"

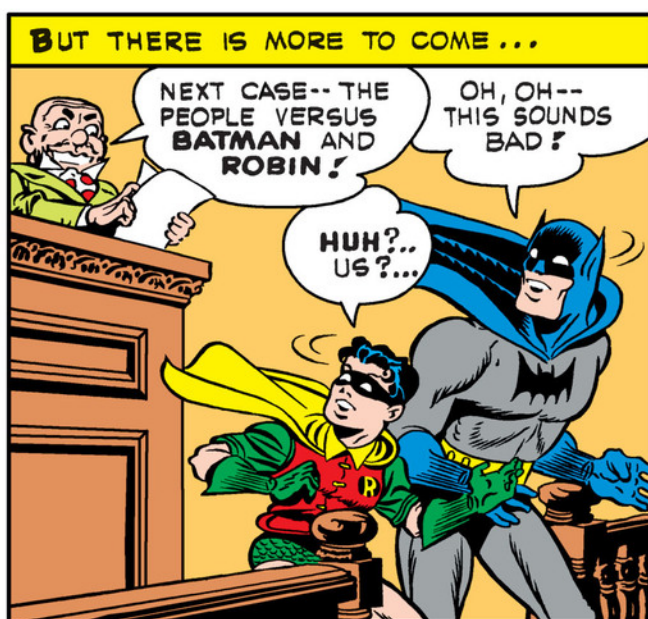
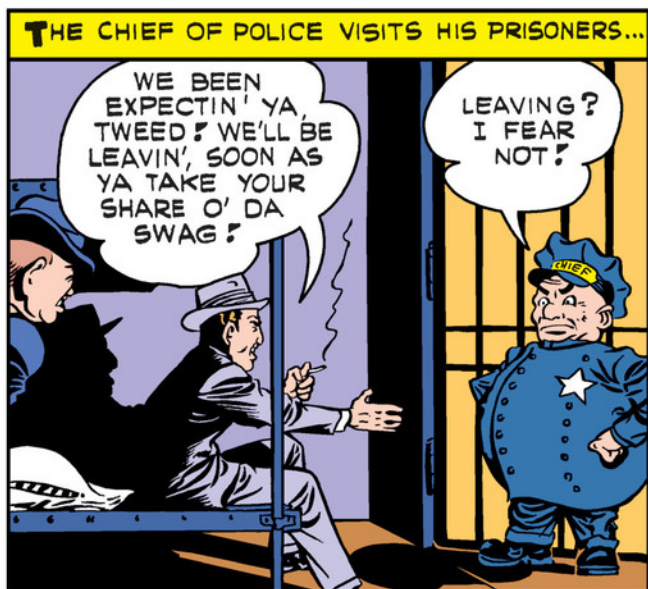


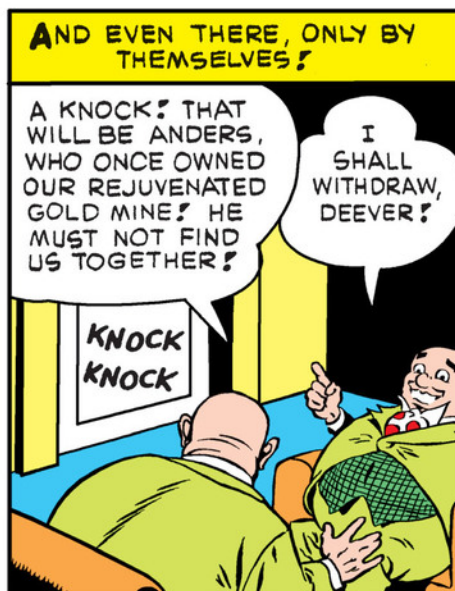
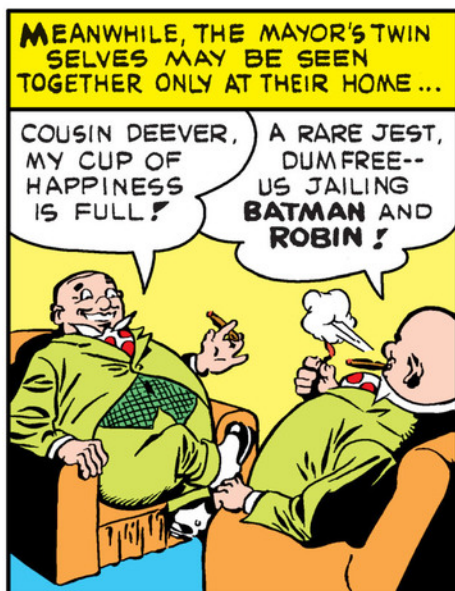
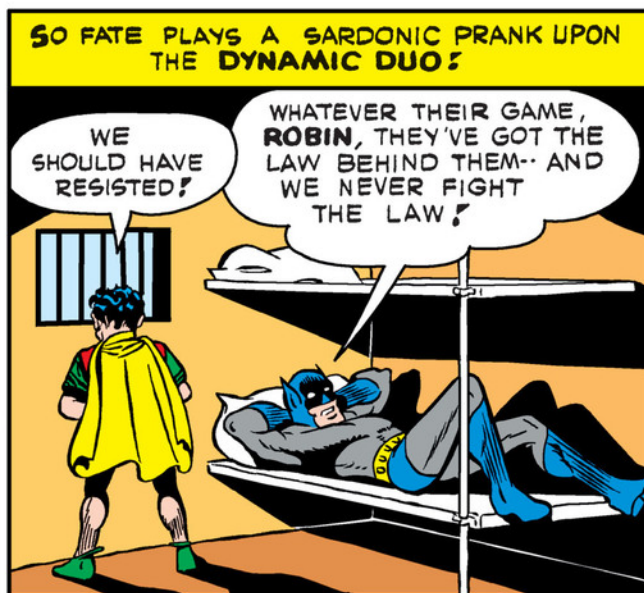
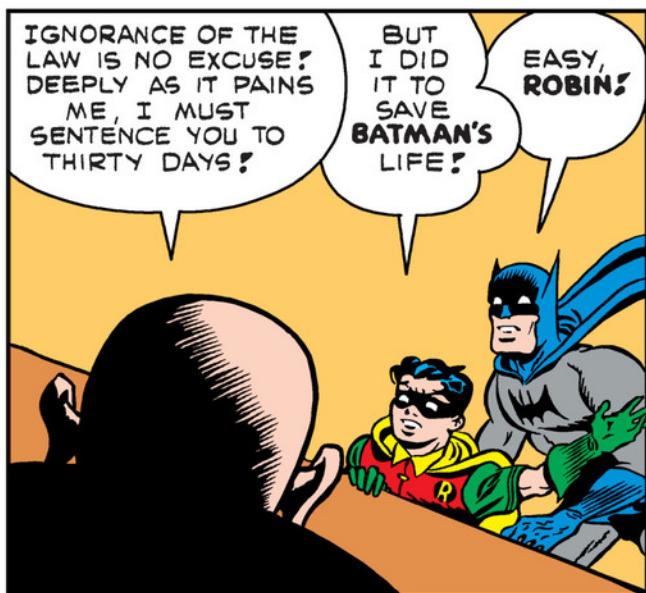
INCREDIBLE AS IT SEEMS, AT THIS VERY MOMENT, TWO BLOCKS AWAY...











NEXT DAY, HUGE POSTERS PROCLAIM AMAZING TIDINGS...

EITHER TWEED'S CRAZY, OR HIS HEART'S AS BIG AS HIS STUMMICK-- WHICH IS GOIN' SOME!

NOTICE!!
HAVING DISCOVERED A RICH VEIN OF GOLD IN THE OLD MINE UNDER MY HOUSE, I HEREBY MAKE A FREE GIFT OF ALL THE PROFITS TO BE DIVIDED AMONG THOSE OF MY FELLOWTOWNSMEN WHO PROVIDE MONEY FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT. FOR MYSELF, I WANT NOTHING.
-- MAYOR TWEED.

THE MAGIC WORD -GOLD- BRINGS EAGER THROGS TO THE TOWN HALL!

TAKE THIS HUNDRED DOLLARS, MAYOR!

HERE'S TWENTY-- ALL I'VE GOT!

DON'T CROWD! THERE'S PLENTY OF GOLD!

TWO DAYS LATER, THE MINE PAYS A DIVIDEND...

YOU CAN COLLECT YOUR MONEY NOW, OR RE-INVEST IT AND MAKE MORE!

WOW--A DIVIDEND ALREADY? KEEP MY SHARE!

AND PEOPLE GO MAD WITH VISIONS OF RICHES!

KEEP MINE, TOO-- AN' TAKE THIS THOUSAND I BORROWED!

I'M SELLIN' MY FARM! I'LL BE A MILLIONAIRE BY SPRING!

THAT NIGHT, AT THE JAIL...

HERE, BATMAN-- READIN' TH' NEWS'LL HELP PASS TH' TIME!

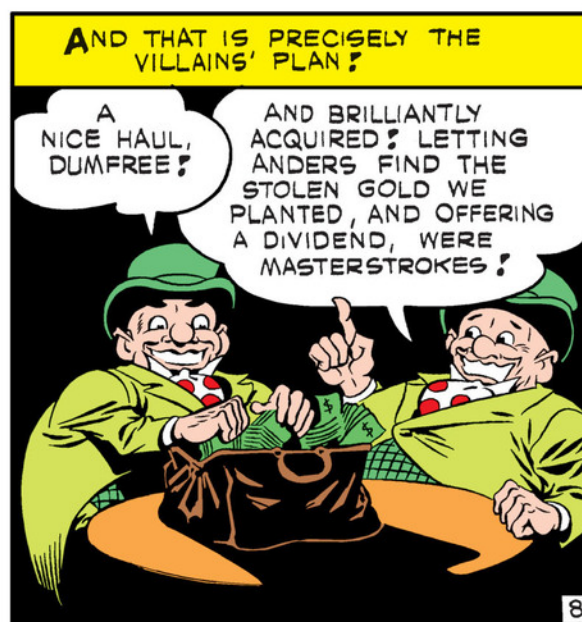
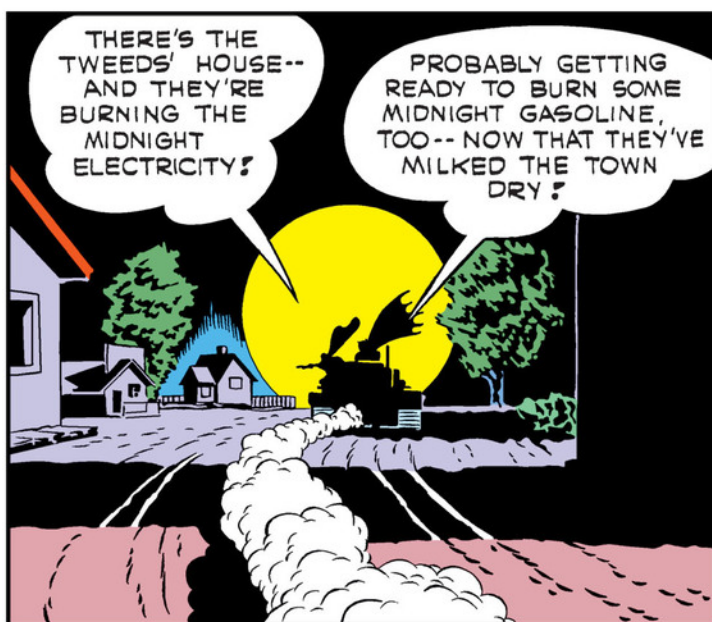
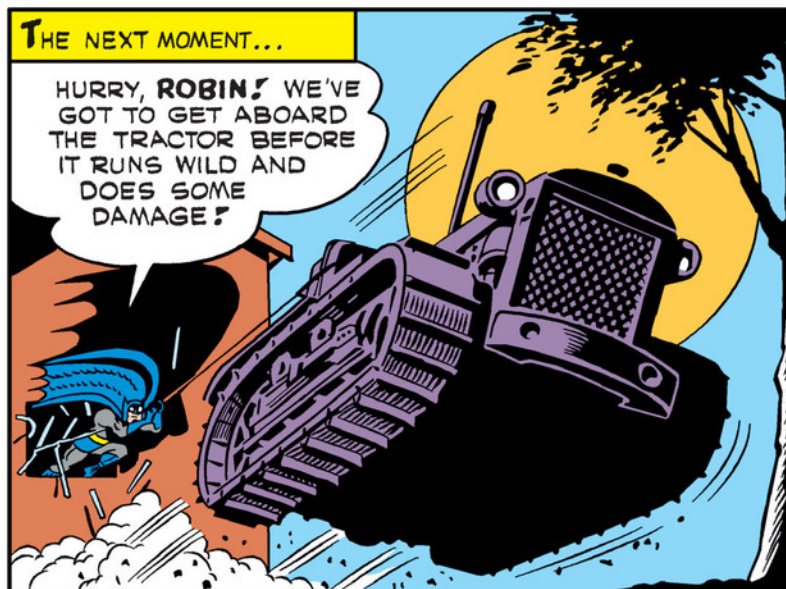
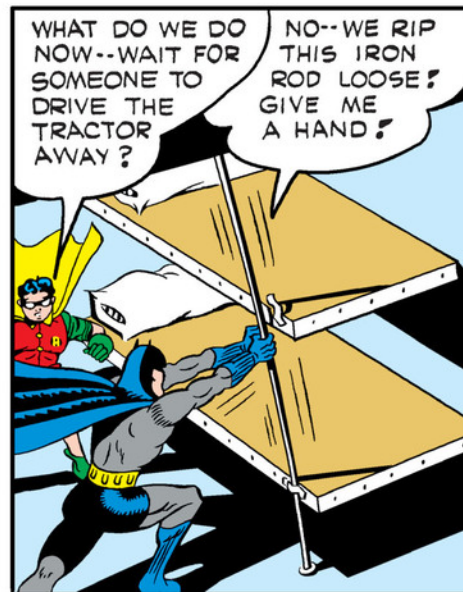
GLOBE
THE WHOLE TOWN'S IN HOCK, BUT MILLIONS ARE EXPECTED FROM MINE FOUND BY MAYOR!

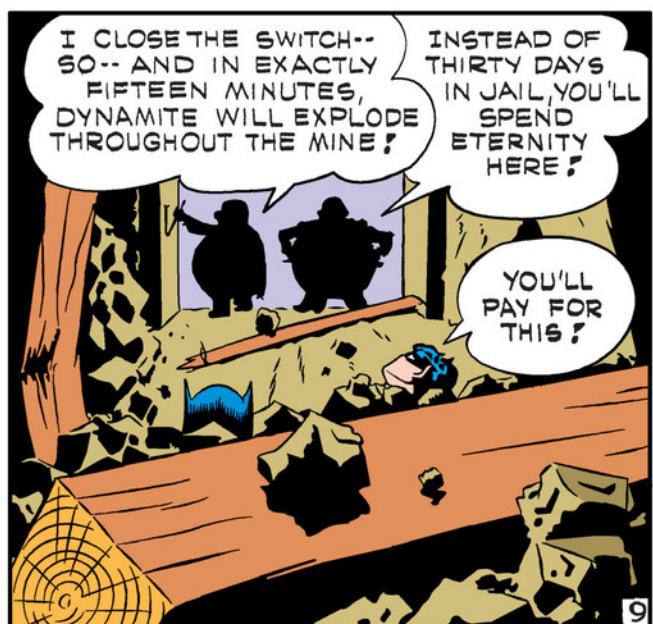
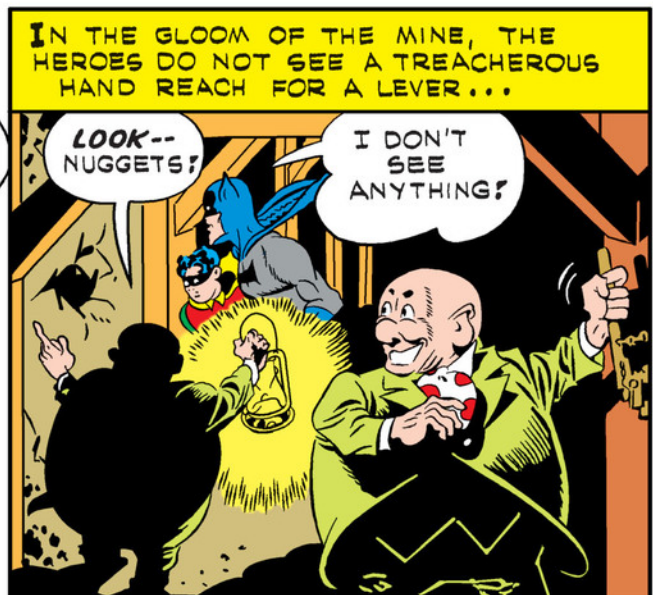
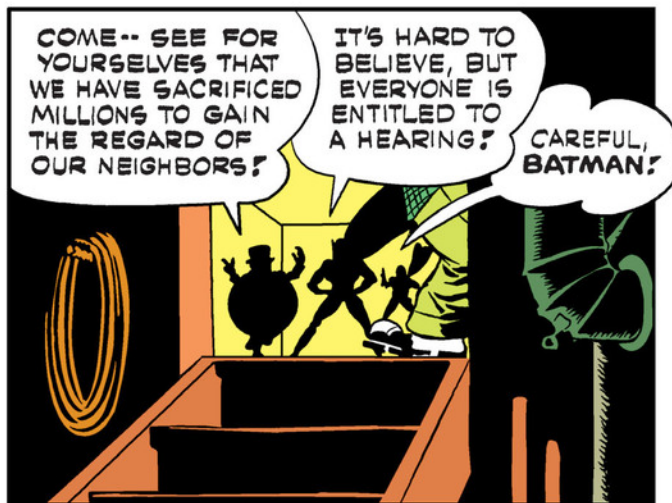
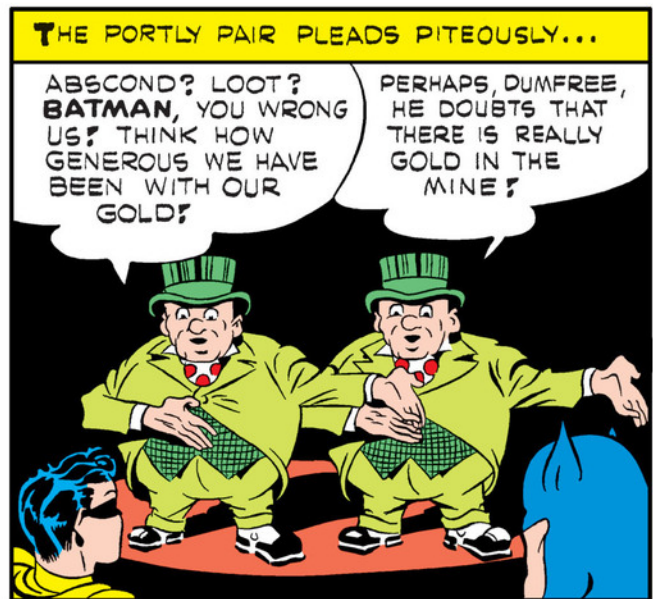
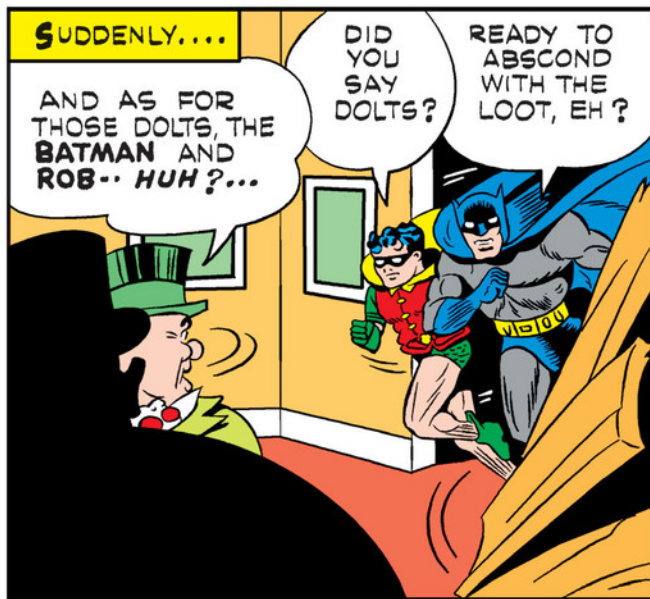
GREAT SCOTT-- WHAT'S THIS?

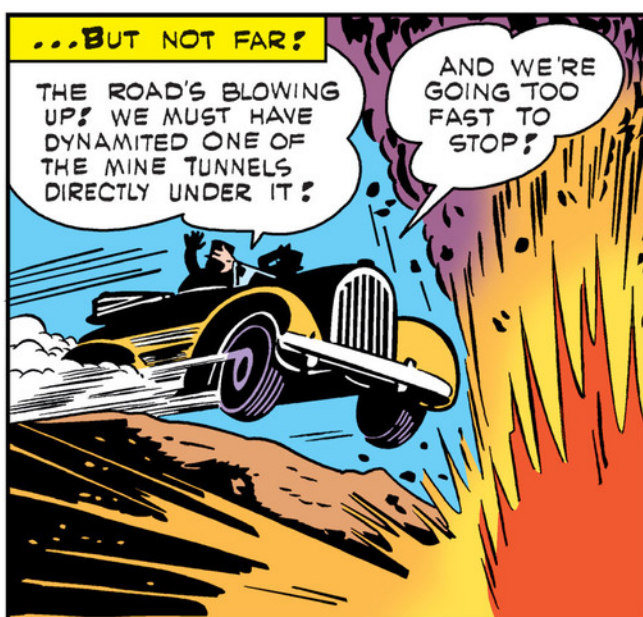
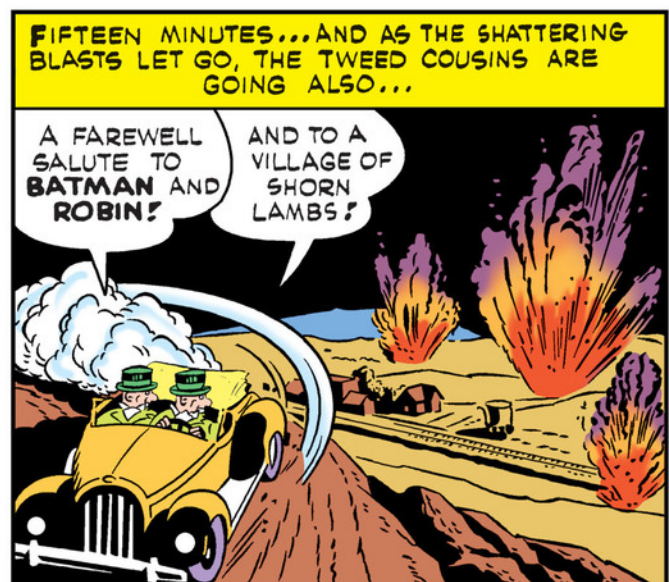
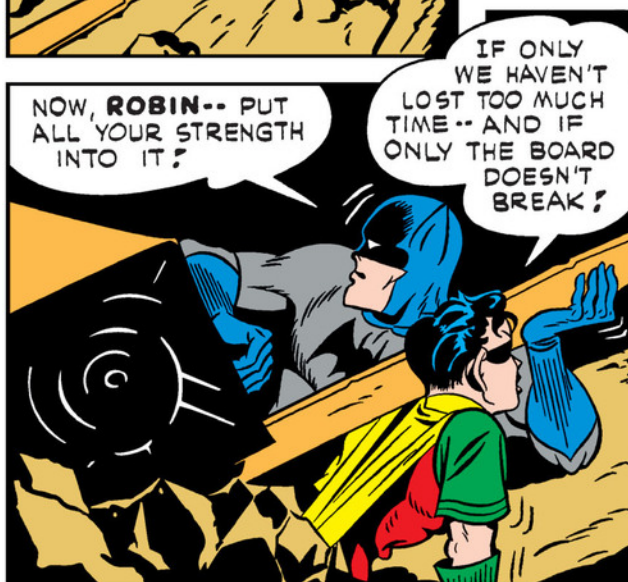
TWEED'S WORKING A GOLD MINE SWINDLE ON THE WHOLE TOWN. FOLKS ARE SELLING SO WE ALL THEY KNOW OWN TO WHAT THEIR RACKET IS-- AND WE'RE HELPLESS!

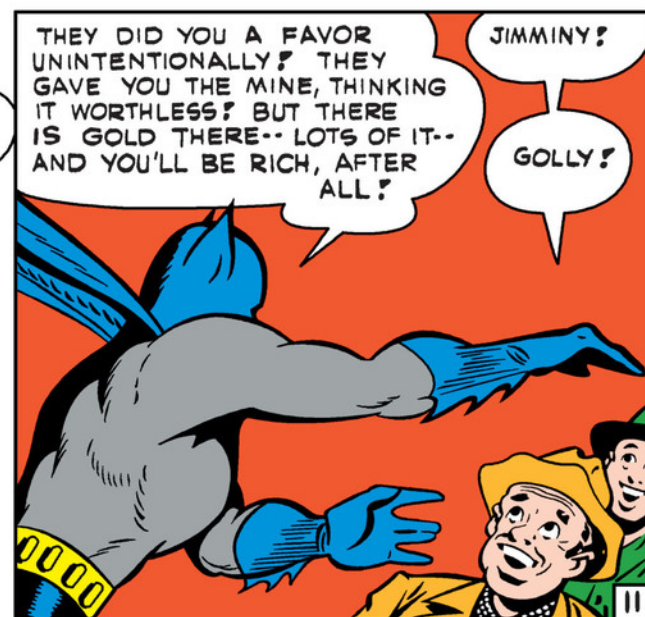
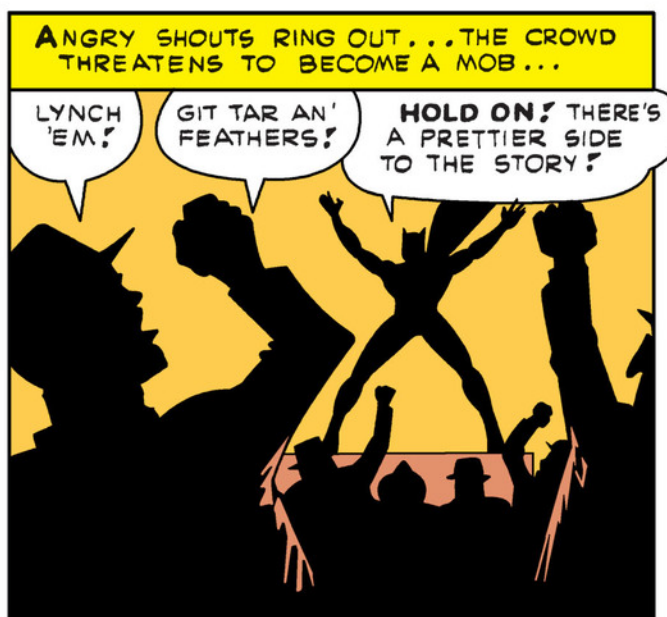
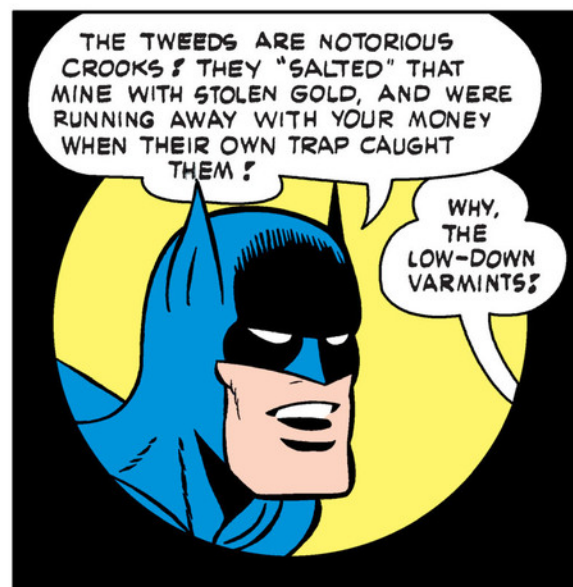
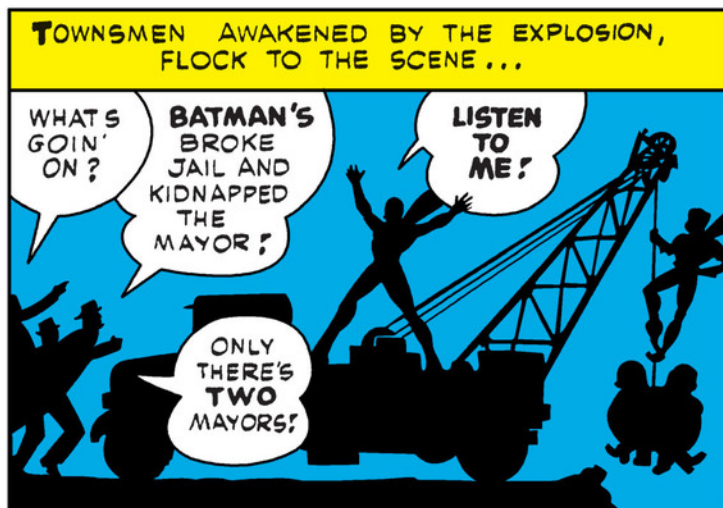
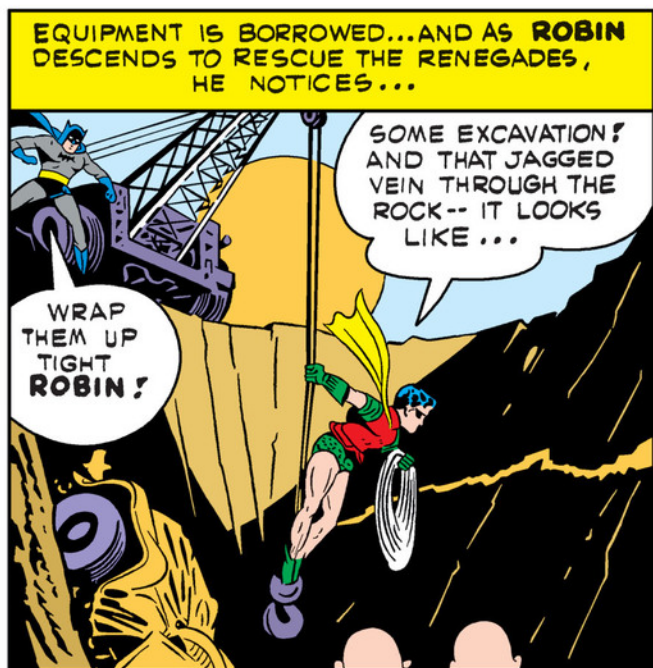
HELPLESS? NO, **ROBIN!** WE AREN'T GOING TO LET THOSE FAT LEECHES LEAVE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE PENNILESS! WE'RE GOING TO ESCAPE!

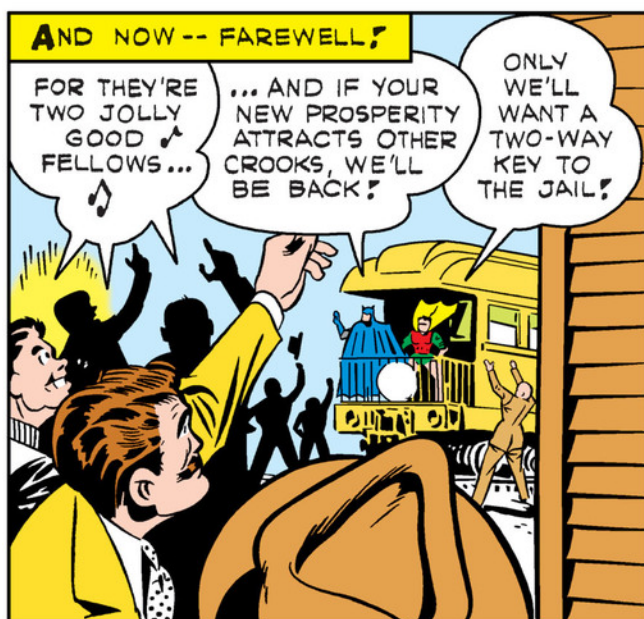
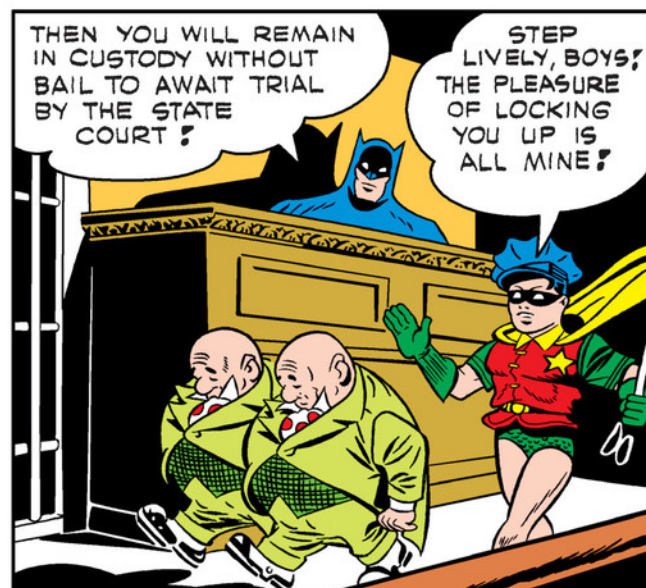
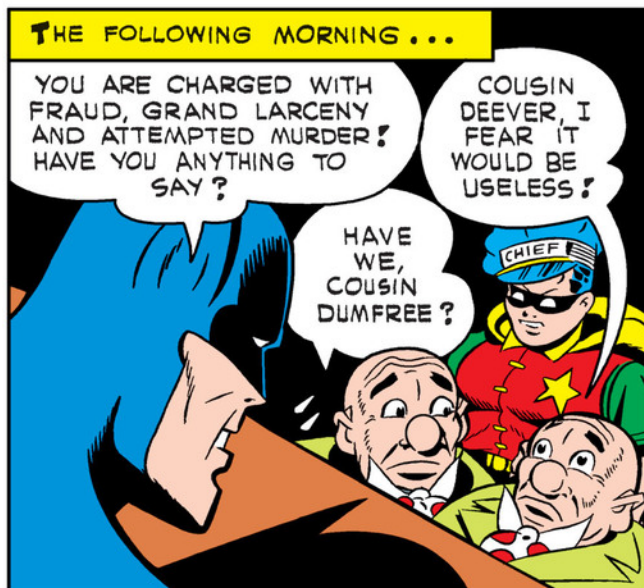
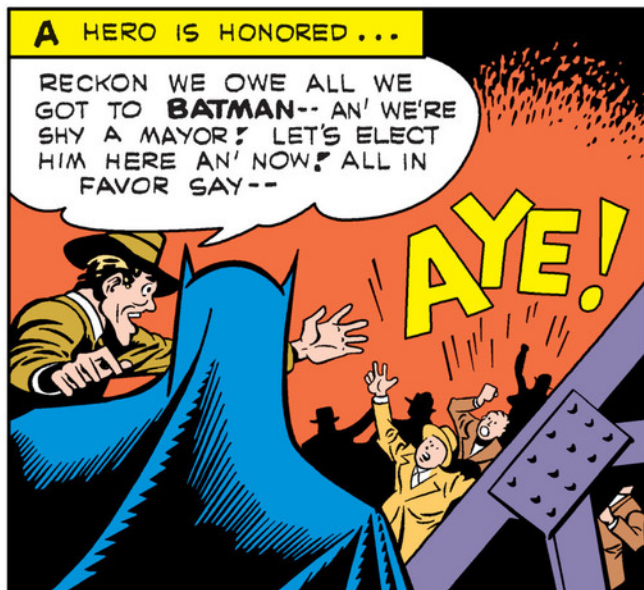
I'M FOR IT-- BUT HOW?













No. 90 BACK THE 5TH WAR LOAN!



Detective W. & P. S. S. COMICS

AUG.



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

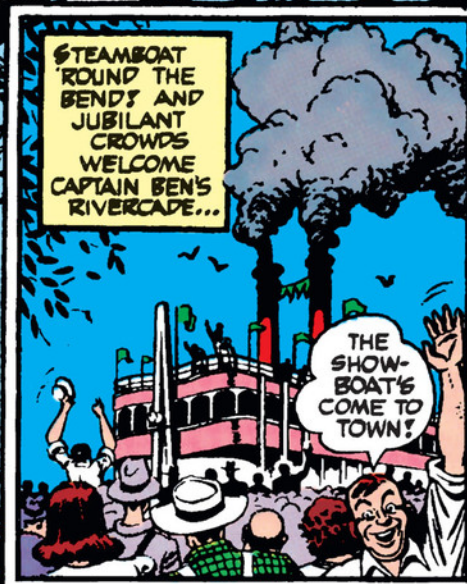
HERE COMES THE SHOWBOAT! FOR GENERATIONS THAT GLAD CRY HAS HERALDED THE APPROACH OF THE GAY, CAREFREE FLOATING THEATRE DEAR TO THE HEARTS OF RIVER FOLK. PROCLAIMING A NIGHT OF REVELRY--- AND THEN DAYS OF CHUCKLING MEMORIES! SUCH A CRAFT WAS THE MISSISSIPPI MERMAID--- BUT IN HER FOAMY WAKE SWIRLED A MURKY TRAIL OF CUNNING CRIME, OF BRAZEN BANDITRY, THAT LEFT THE OUTWITTED POLICE BAFLED AND HELPLESS! HERE IS HOW BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, RISE TO MEET THE MENACING CHALLENGE OF---

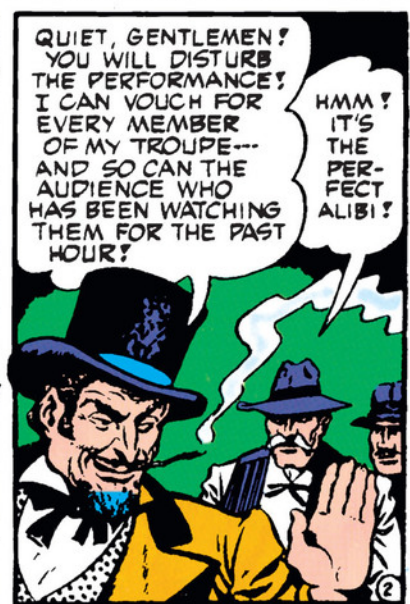
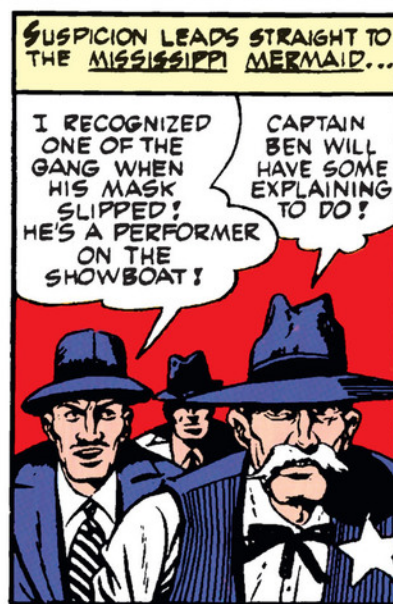
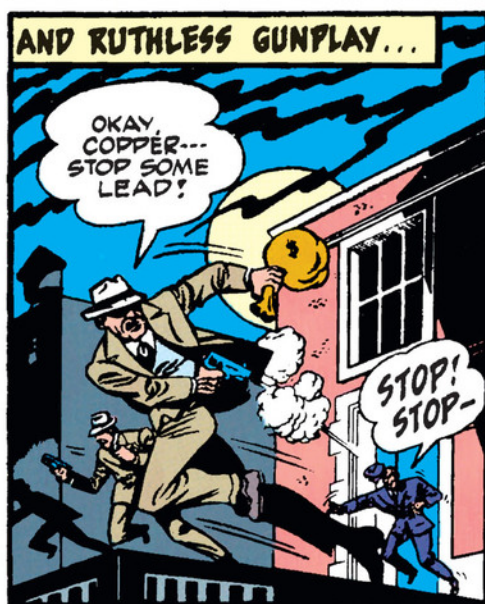
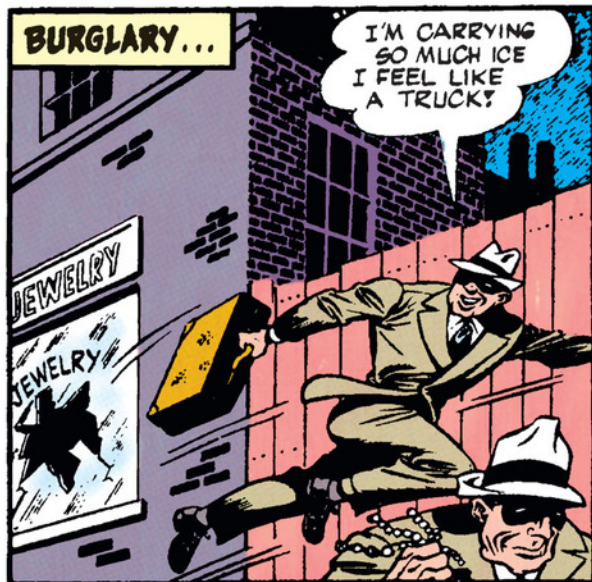
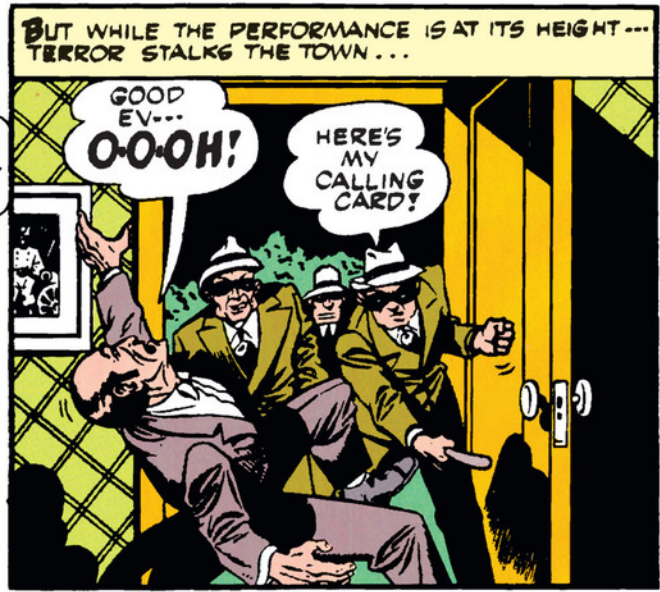
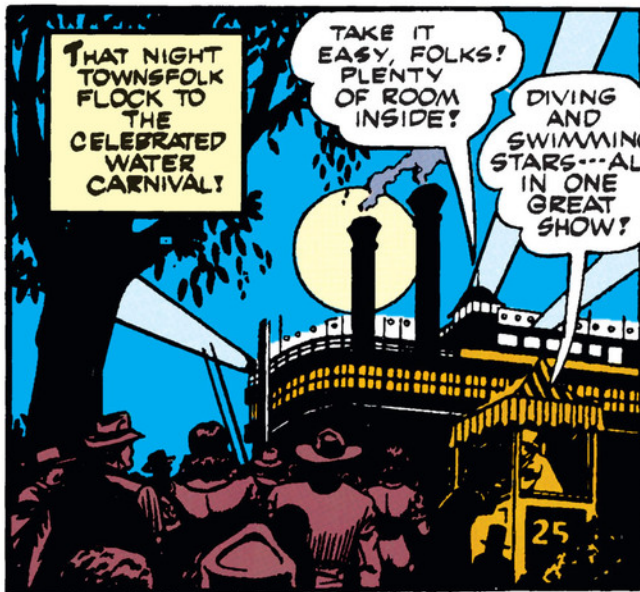
'CRIME BETWEEN THE ACTS!'



STEAMBOAT
ROUND THE
BENDS AND
JUBILANT
CROWDS
WELCOME
CAPTAIN BEN'S
RIVERCADE...

THE
SHOW-
BOAT'S
COME TO
TOWN!





THE NEXT DAY, AT THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

GOSH, HERE'S ANOTHER STORY ON THE MISSISSIPPI MERMAID! CARVER TOWN WAS CLEANED OUT WHILE THE SHOWBOAT WAS AT THE DOCK!

H-M-M-M... JEFFERSON, TALBERT, JOHNSVILLE, NOW CARVER TOWN! LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE ATLAS!



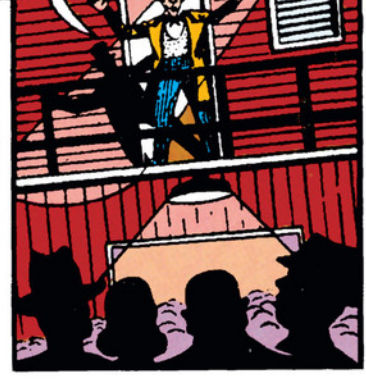
LOOK--- EVERY LITTLE TOWN VISITED BY THAT SHOWBOAT HAS BEEN A VICTIM OF THE RIVER GANG! WE HAVE A JOB ON OUR HANDS, DICKEY!

MISSISSIPPI, HERE WE COME!



MEANWHILE, THE BEGUILING MERMAID SAILS ON TO FRESH TRIUMPHS!

WELCOME, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! WELCOME TO THE FINEST AQUATIC SHOW ON EARTH!



BUT... WHILE DALESTOWN APPLAUDS THE SHOWBOAT PERFORMANCE, THE RIVER GANG STRIKES AGAIN!



UP WITH YOUR HANDS---AND KEEP YOUR TRAP SHUT!



COME ON, GRAMPA--- GET IT OPEN BEFORE I OPEN YOU!

OPEN! BUT THE CLICKING TUMBLERS BRING--- THE BATMAN AND ROBIN!



YOU HIT THE JACKPOT THIS TIME!

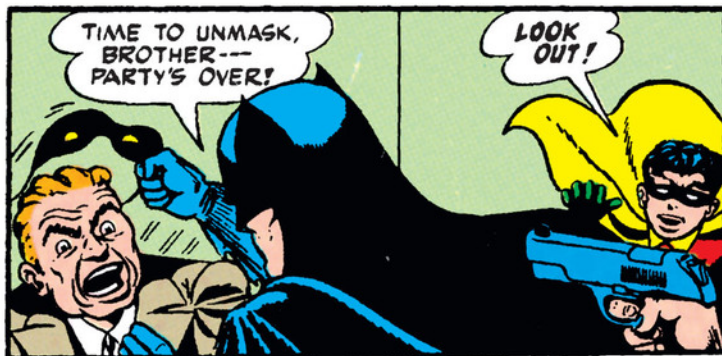
DID YOU RING SIR?



ONE

TWO

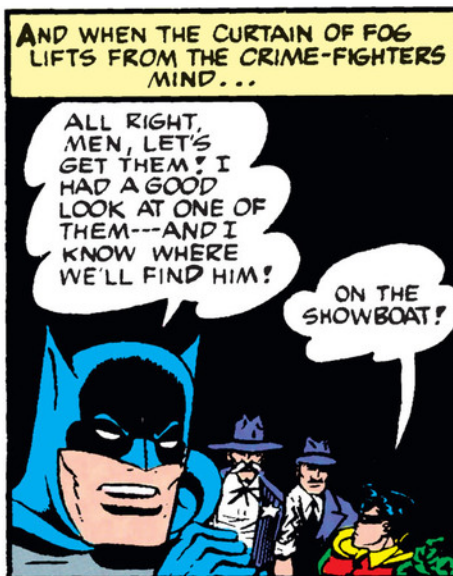
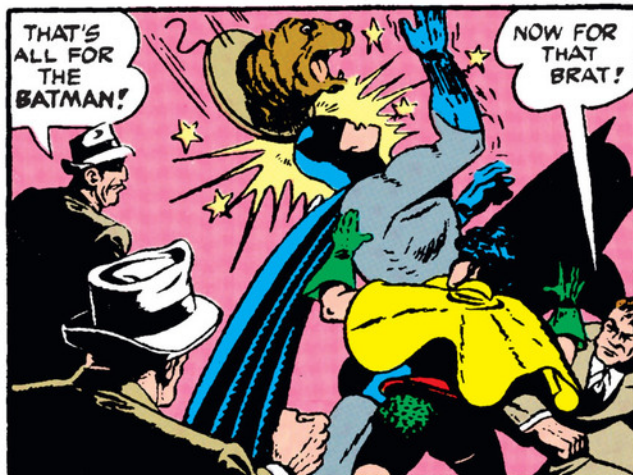
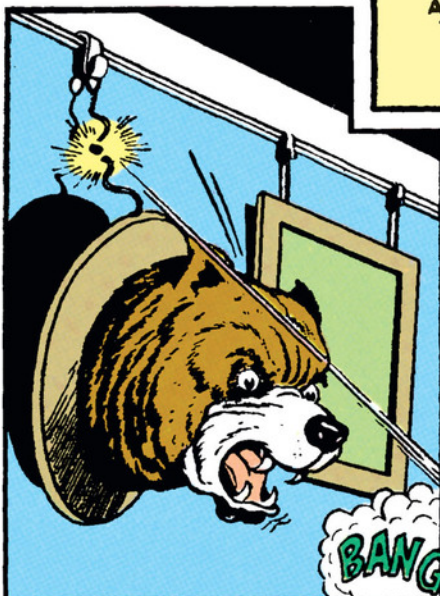
THE BATMAN!

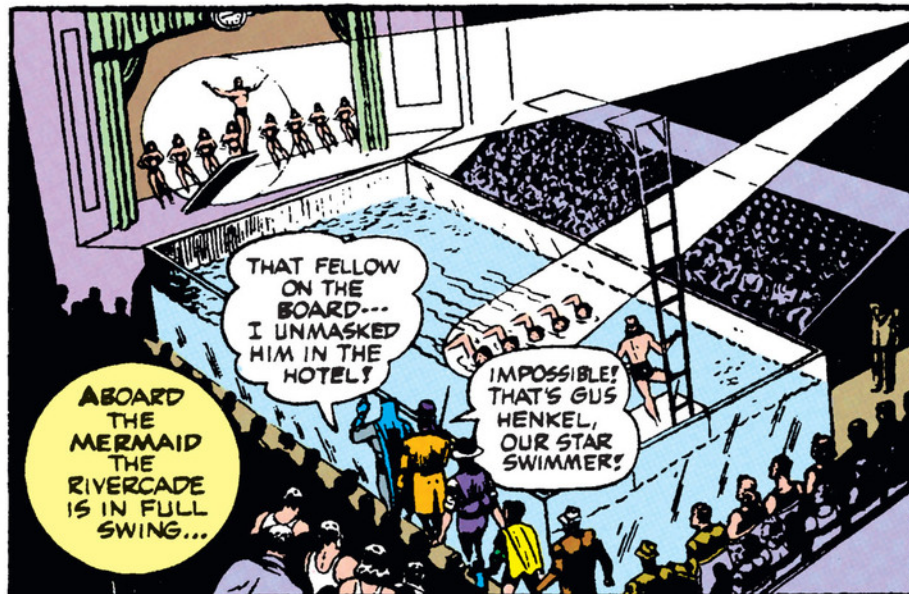


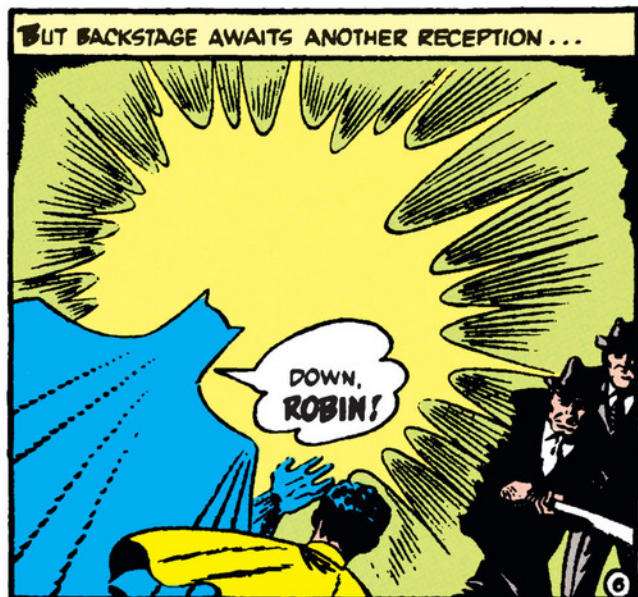
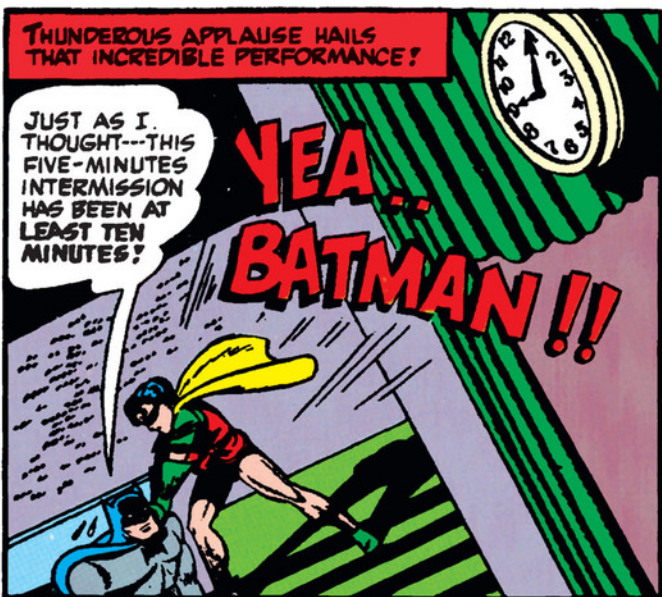
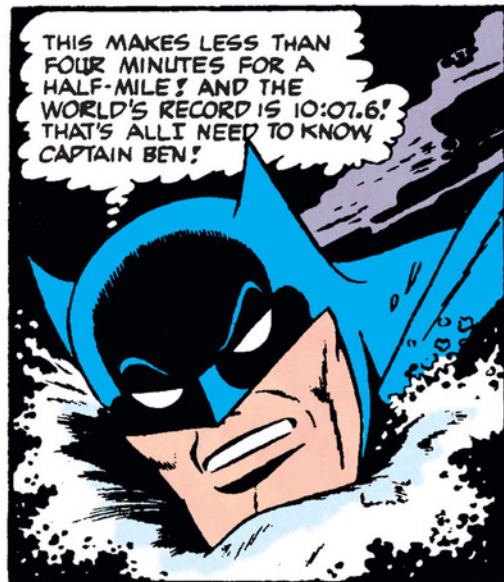
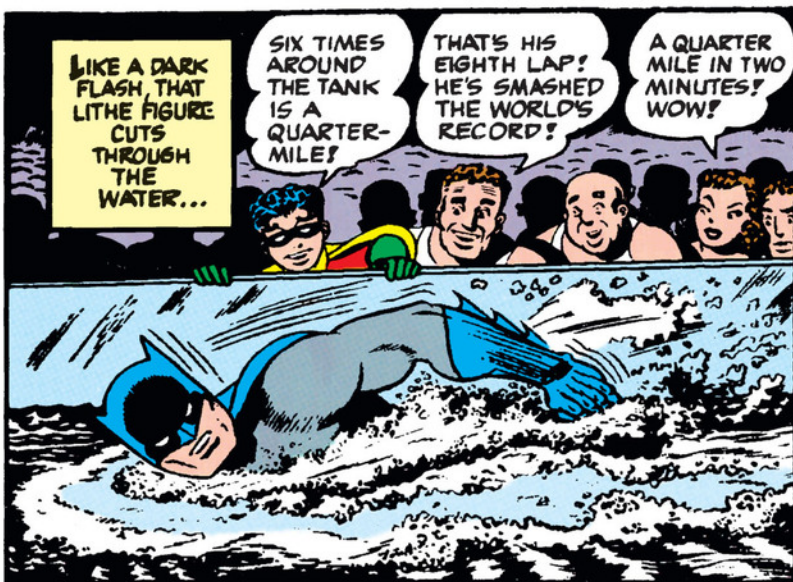
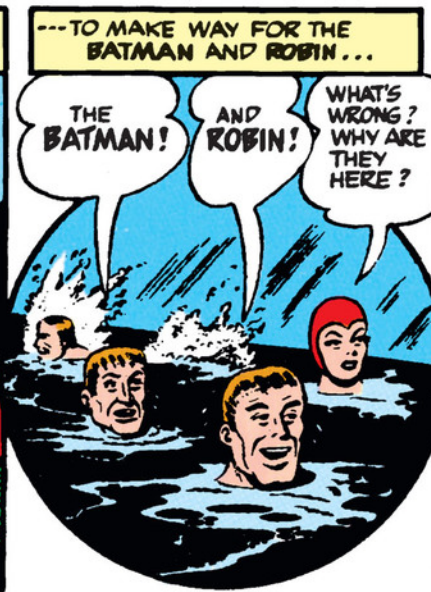
LIGHTNING-FAST. THE BOY WONDER LASHES OUT WITH AN AGILE TOE!

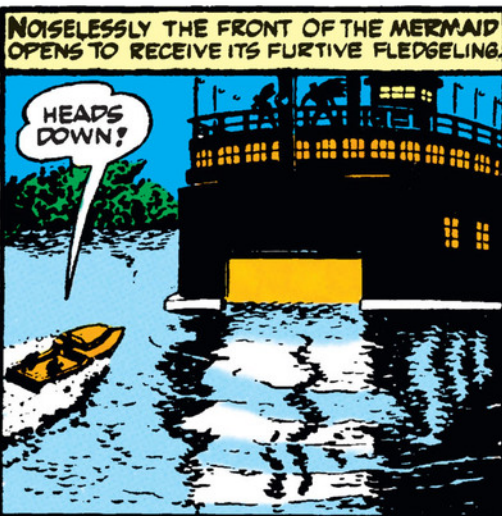
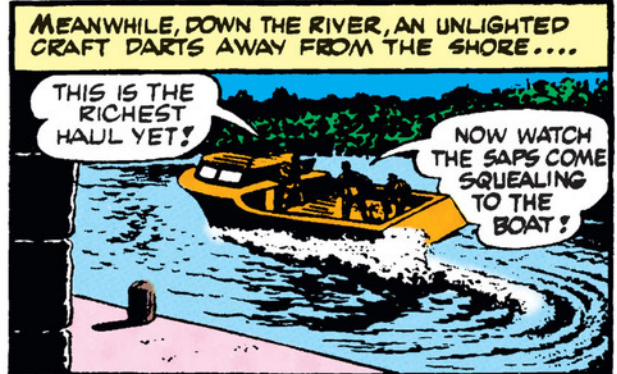
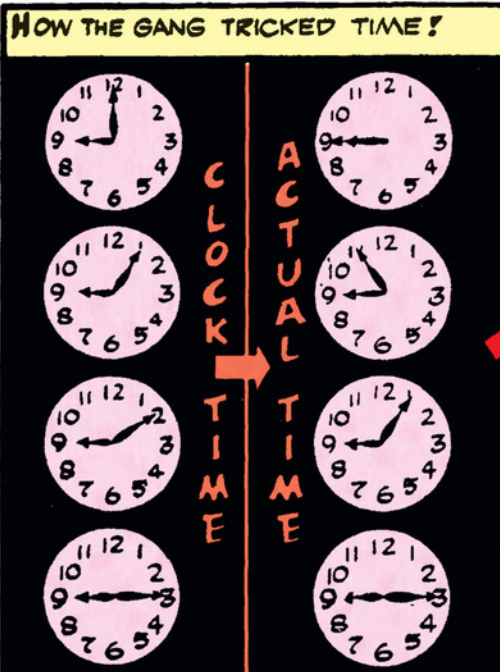
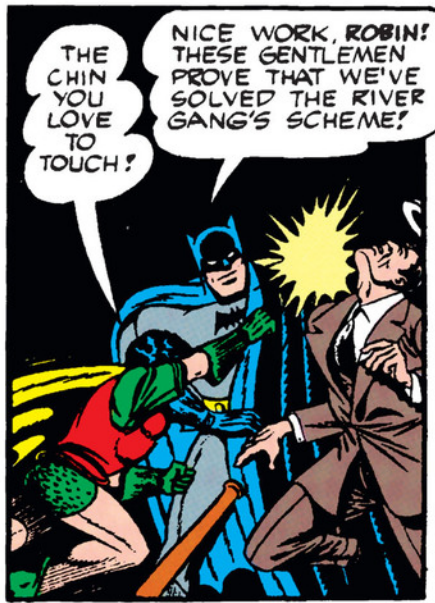


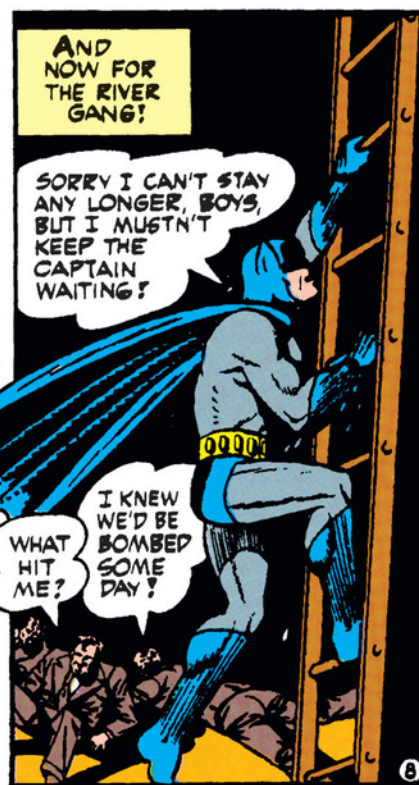
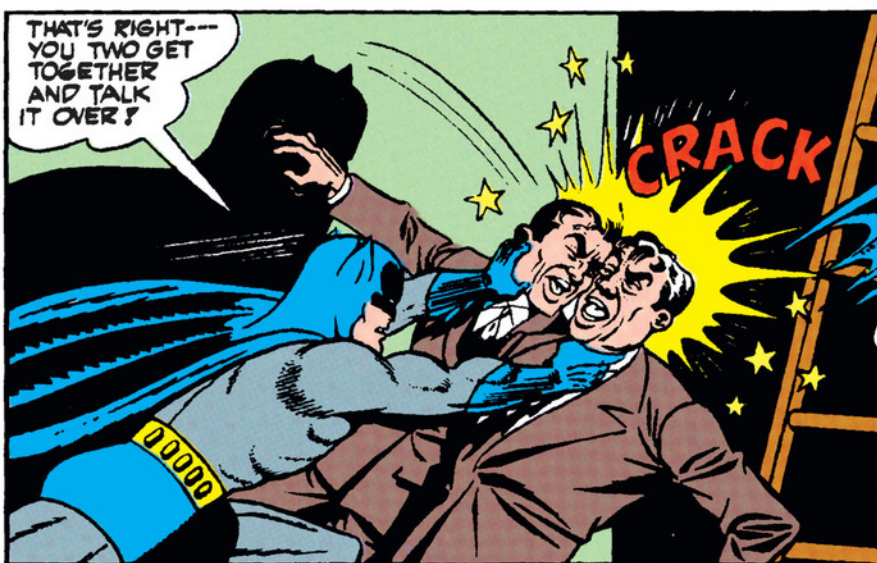
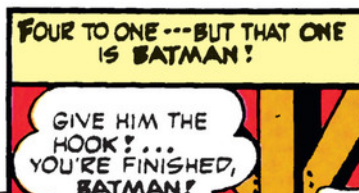
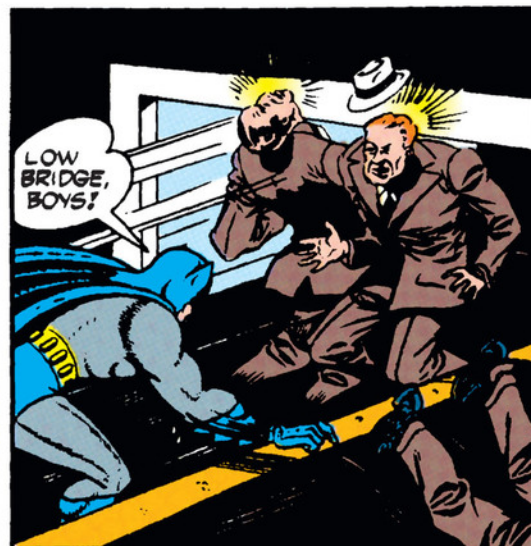
BUT PERVERSE FATE INTERVENES.. AND THE STRAY BULLET SEVERS A SUPPORTING WIRE!











UNAWARE OF THE DISASTER BELOW-DECK, CAPTAIN BEN GUARDS HIS GANGPLANK...

WE CHASED THEM TO THE RIVER AND SAW THEM HEADING FOR YOUR BOAT, CAPTAIN! THEY'RE ON THE MERMAID!



UNTIL---

I WOULDN'T BE TOO SURE OF THAT, CAPTAIN!



BUT WILY CAPTAIN BEN THINKS FAST...

THE BATMAN... THERE'S YOUR ANSWER, CONSTABLE! HE WAS IN THE TOWN WHEN IT WAS LOOTED! HE'S HERE! HE'S USING MY BOAT AS A HIDEOUT! LOOK---HE'S STILL WET FROM SWIMMING ABOARD!



THE SLY RUSE WORKS...

MY TOWN'S BEEN ROBBED CLEAN, AND I AIN'T TAKIN' CHANCES WITH NOBODY! HOW DO WE KNOW YOU ARE THE BATMAN?

AND IF YOU ARE THE BATMAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

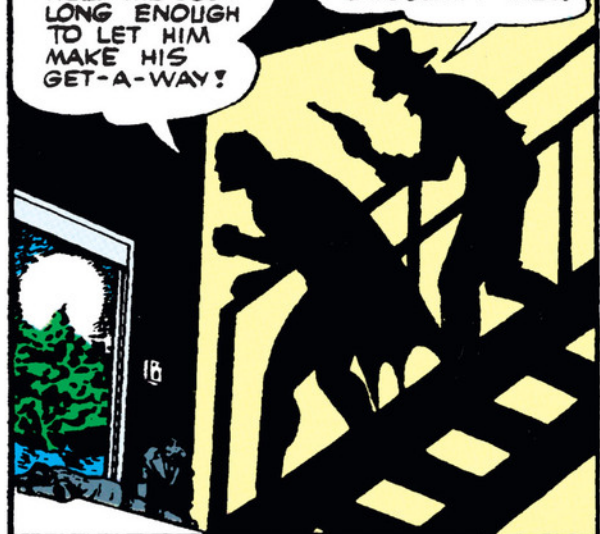


I'M DOING WHAT YOU OUGHT TO BE DOING--- HUNTING THE RIVER GANG! WE HAD THE BRAINS HERE A MINUTE AGO, BUT NOW--- THANKS TO YOU--- HE'S SLIPPED AWAY! GET MOVING AND WE MAY STILL NAB HIM!



TOO LATE! YOU HELD ME JUST LONG ENOUGH TO LET HIM MAKE HIS GET-A-WAY!

I--- I DIDN'T KNOW! I COULDN'T TELL!



THERE HE GOES, CONSTABLE! THAT'S THE LAST YOU'LL SEE OF CAPTAIN BEN---AND THE LOOT HIS GANG TOOK OUT OF YOUR TOWN!

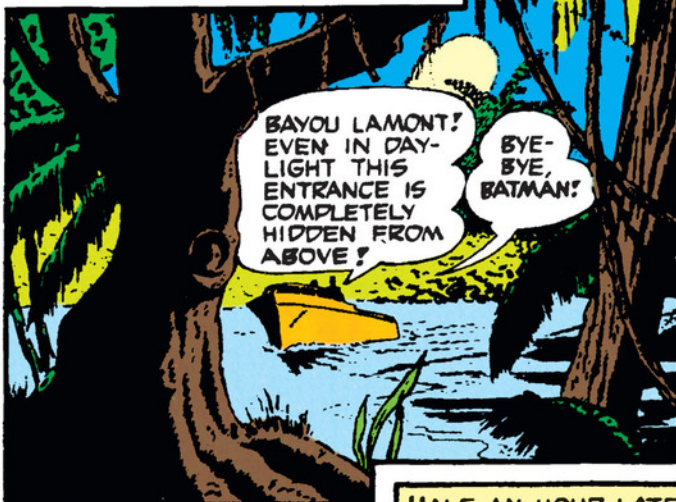
WHY, THE DOUBLE-CROSSING LIAR! AND HE SOUNDED SO HONEST!



MINUTES LATER, OUT OVER THE RIVER STREAKS AN EERIE, BAT-SHAPED CRAFT---THE BATPLANE!



WHILE FAR BELOW, SKIMMING OVER THE DARK SURFACE OF THE MISSISSIPPI---



MILES UP THE SWAMPY BAYOU LIES A REMOTE RENDEZVOUS...

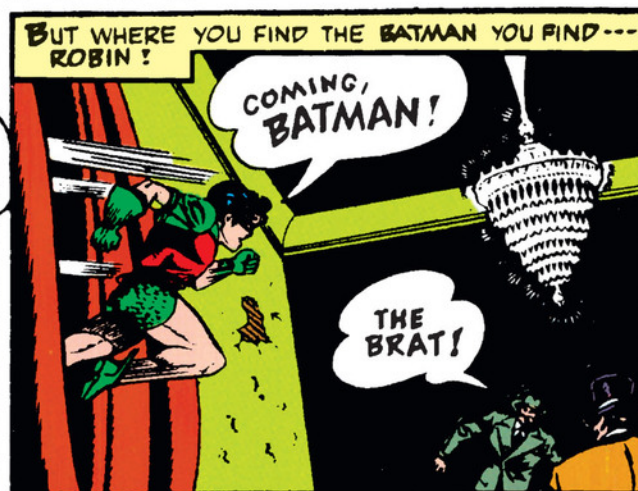
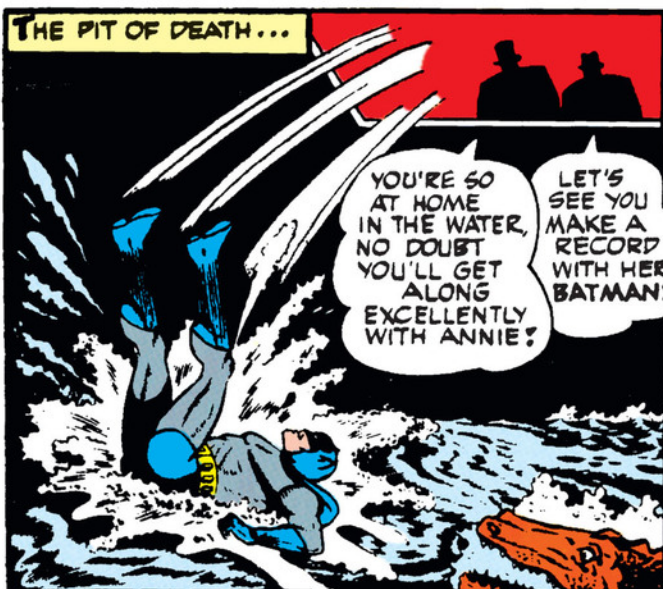
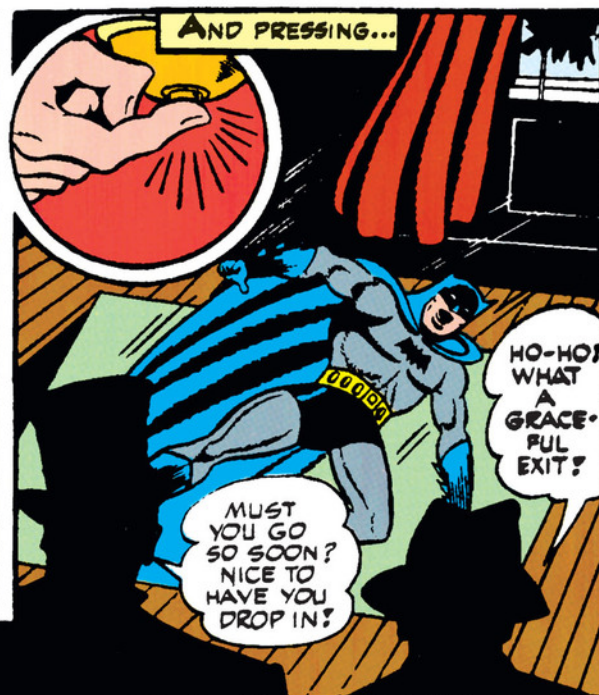
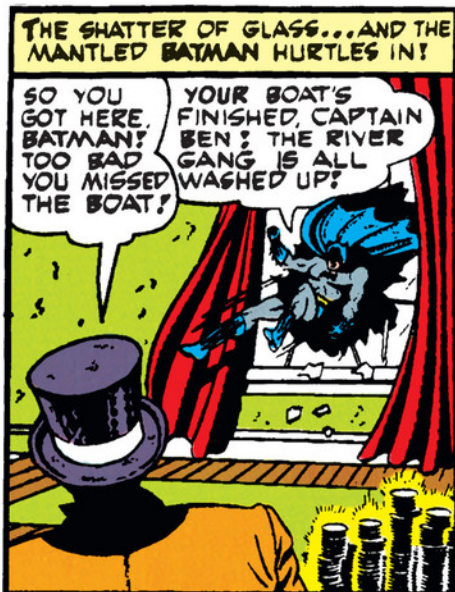


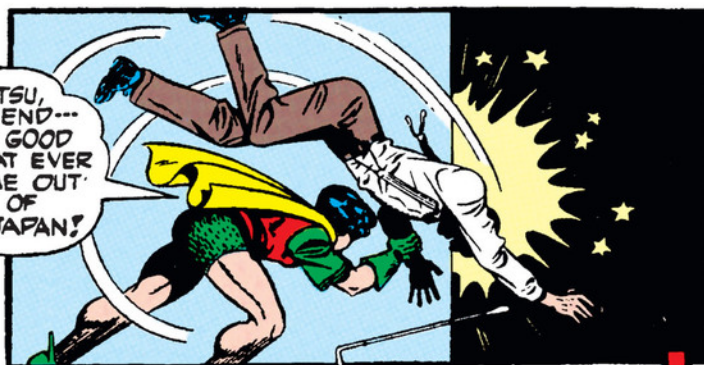
BUT EVEN BEFORE THE ECHO OF HIS COCK-SURE WORDS FADES...



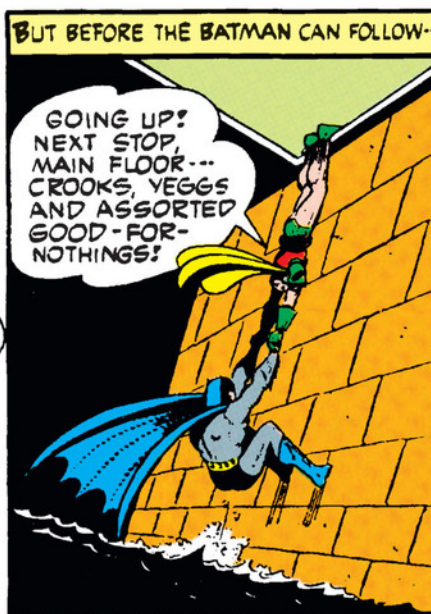
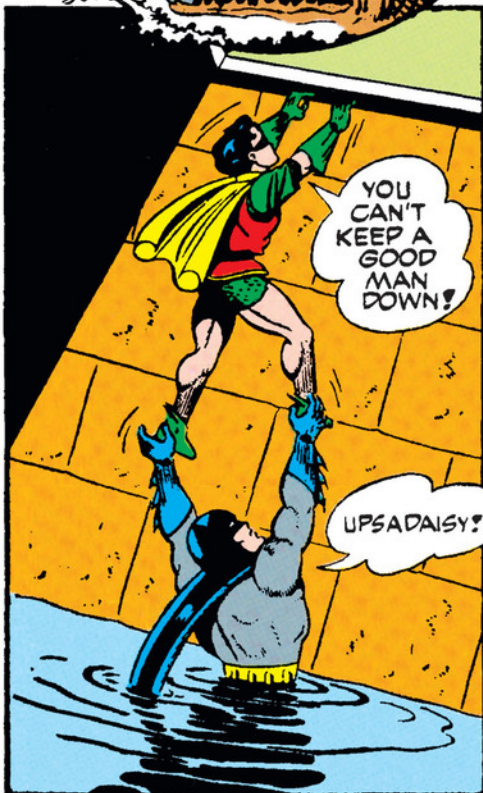
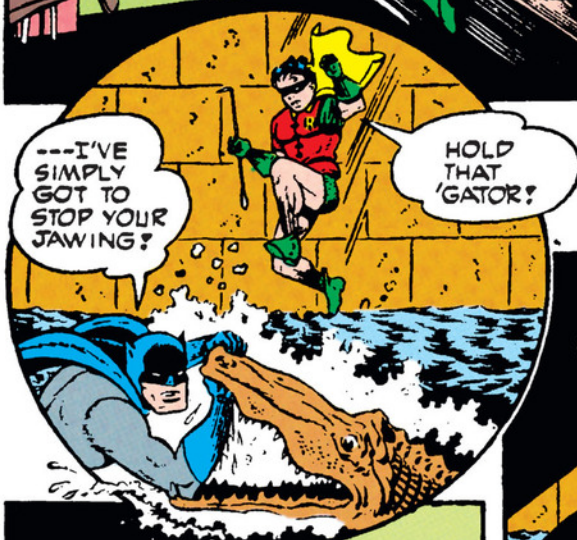
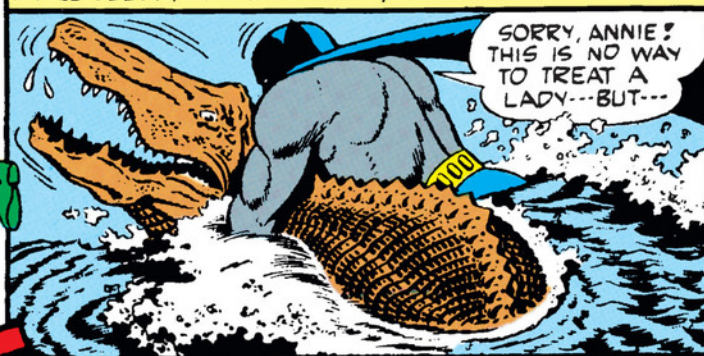
HALF AN HOUR LATER... CAPTAIN BEN TALLIES HIS LOOT...







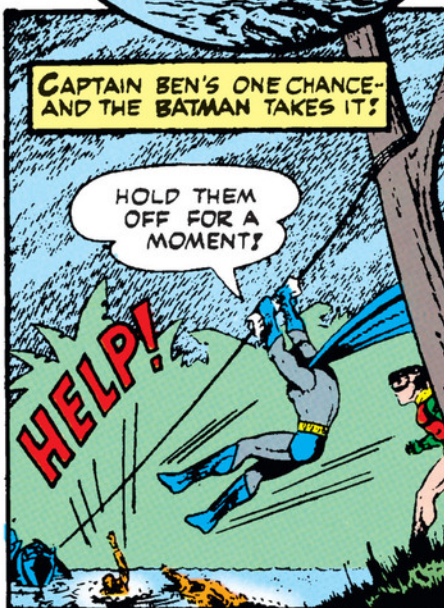
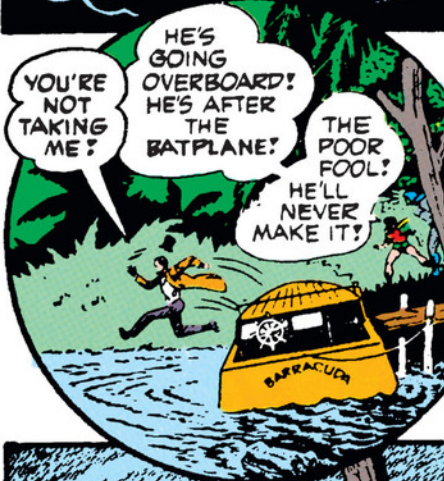
WHILE BELOW, IN THE DEATH PIT, A TITANIC STRUGGLE RAGES!



ONLY THE ACROBATMAN'S PERFECT COORDINATION OF MIND AND MUSCLE CAN MEET THAT PERIL...



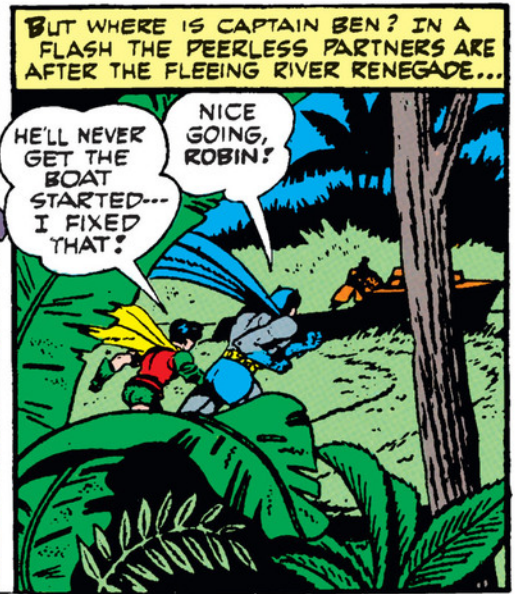
ALLEY-OOP!



CAPTAIN BEN'S ONE CHANCE--AND THE BATMAN TAKES IT!



GLAD TO GIVE YOU A LIFT, HENKEL!



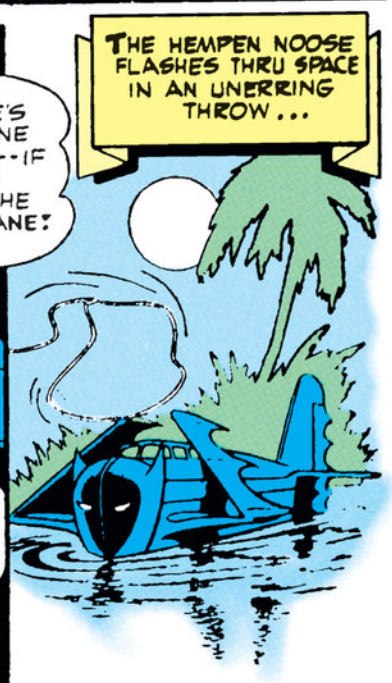
HE'LL NEVER GET THE BOAT STARTED---I FIXED THAT!

NICE GOING, ROBIN!

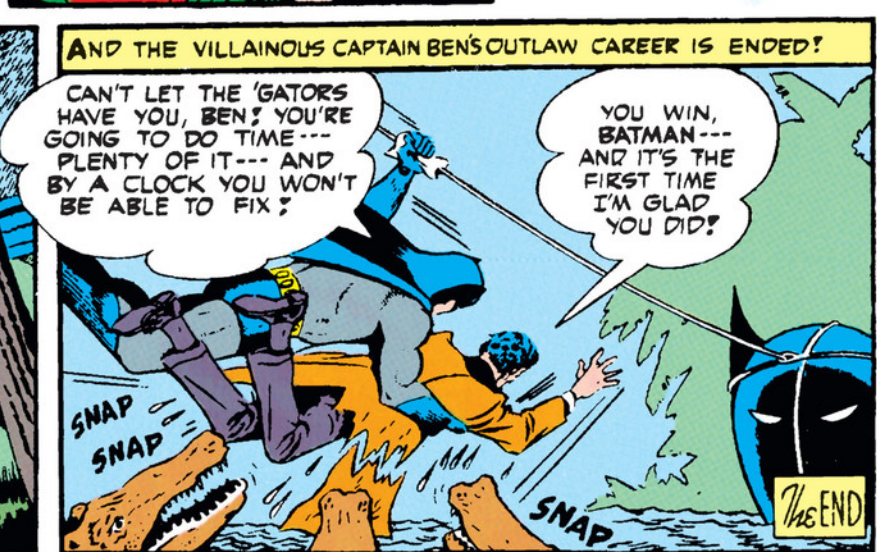


THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE---IF I CAN LOOP THE BATPLANE!

THE ALLIGATORS ARE CLOSING IN ON HIM!



THE HEMPEN NOOSE FLASHES THRU SPACE IN AN UNERRING THROW...



AND THE VILLAINOUS CAPTAIN BEN'S OUTLAW CAREER IS ENDED!

CAN'T LET THE 'GATORS HAVE YOU, BEN! YOU'RE GOING TO DO TIME---PLENTY OF IT---AND BY A CLOCK YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO FIX!

YOU WIN, BATMAN---AND IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'M GLAD YOU DID!

THE END



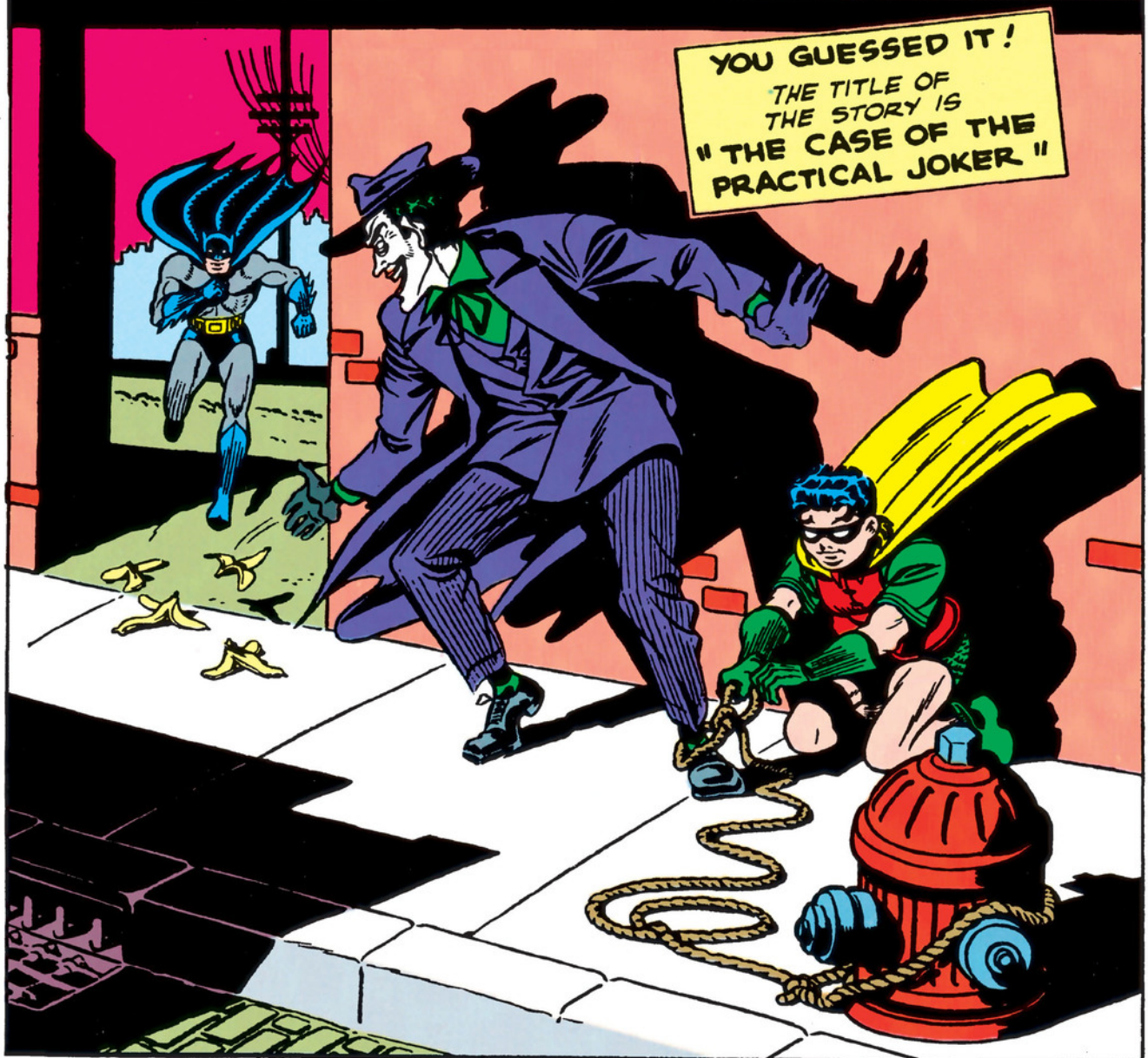
No.91

BOY COMMANDOS



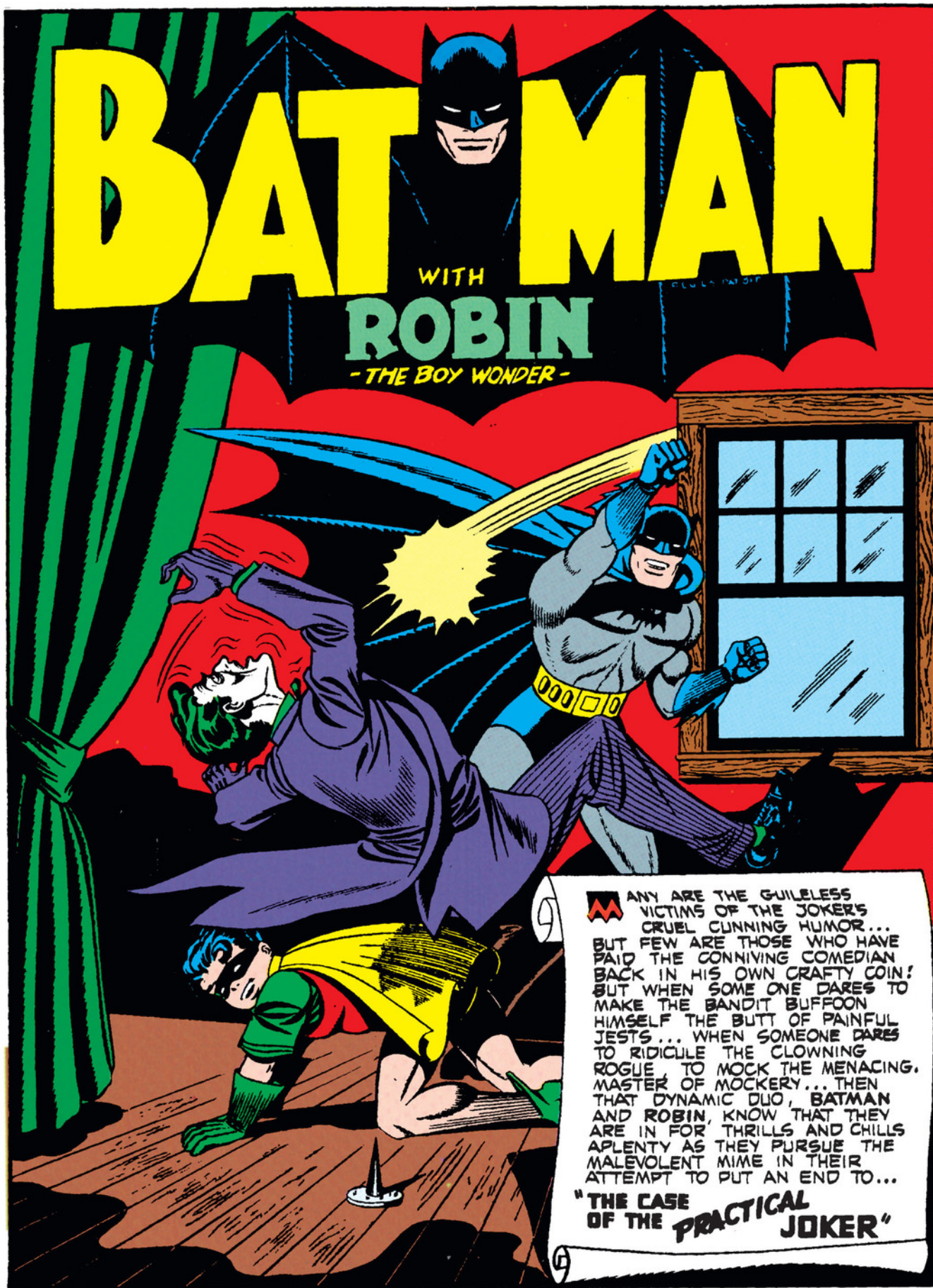
Detective COMICS

SEPT.



BAT MAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -



MANY ARE THE GUILTESS VICTIMS OF THE JOKER'S CRUEL CUNNING HUMOR... BUT FEW ARE THOSE WHO HAVE PAID THE CONNING COMEDIAN BACK IN HIS OWN CRAFTY COIN! BUT WHEN SOME ONE DARES TO MAKE THE BANDIT BUFFOON HIMSELF THE BUTT OF PAINFUL JESTS... WHEN SOMEONE DARES TO RIDICULE THE CLOWNING ROGUE, TO MOCK THE MENACING, MASTER OF MOCKERY... THEN THAT DYNAMIC DUO, BATMAN AND ROBIN, KNOW THAT THEY ARE IN FOR THRILLS AND CHILLS APLENTY AS THEY PURSUE THE MALEVOLENT MIME IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO PUT AN END TO...

"THE CASE OF THE PRACTICAL JOKER"

FROM BEHIND STEEL BARS COMES
MOCKING, SPINE-CHILLING LAUGHTER...

THE SOUND OF MIRTHLESS
GAIETY ECHOES DOWN
THE GRIM CORRIDORS...

BUT TIME BRINGS THE HARLEQUIN
OF HATE NO CAUSE FOR
AMUSEMENT!... **THAT NIGHT...**

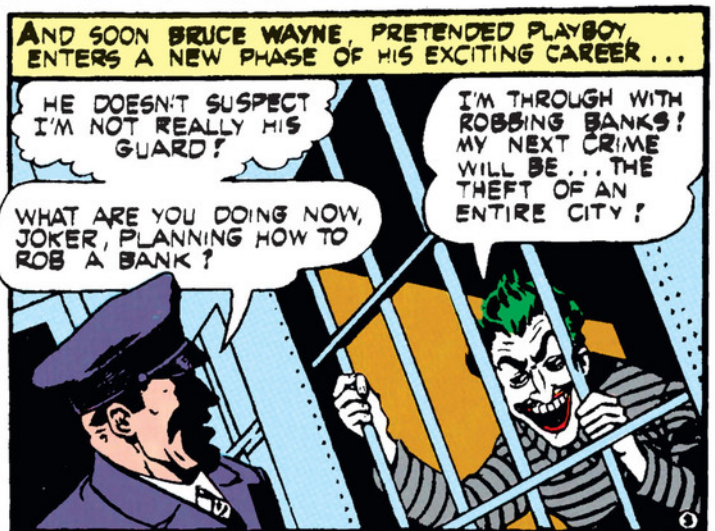
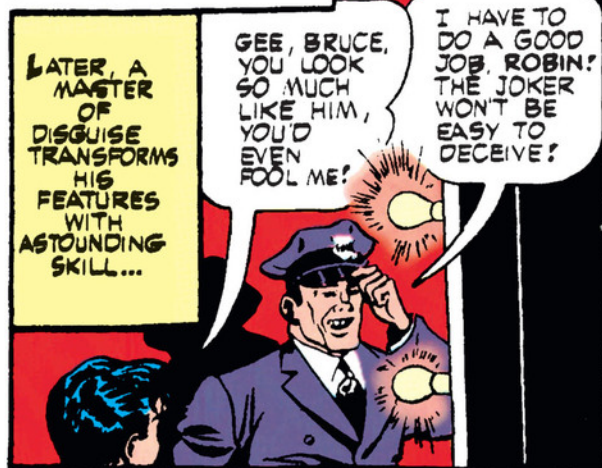
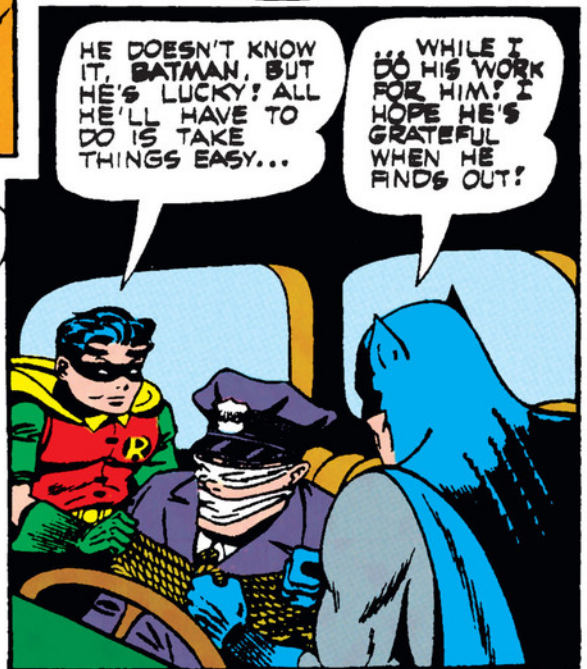


AND AT BREAKFAST...



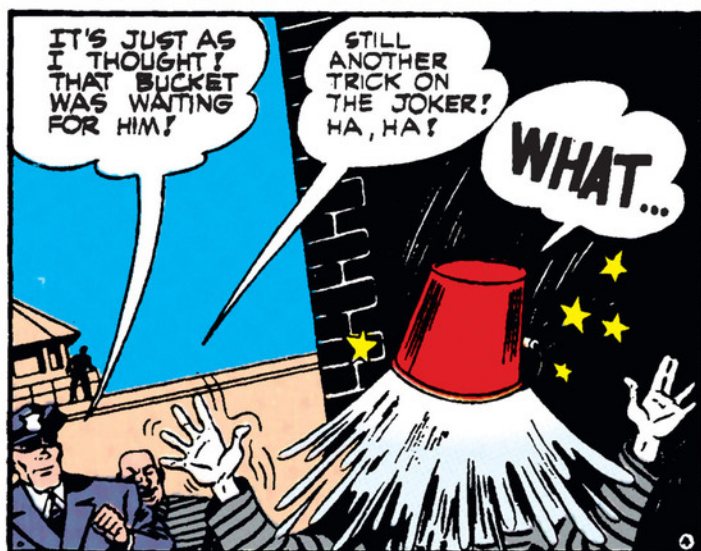
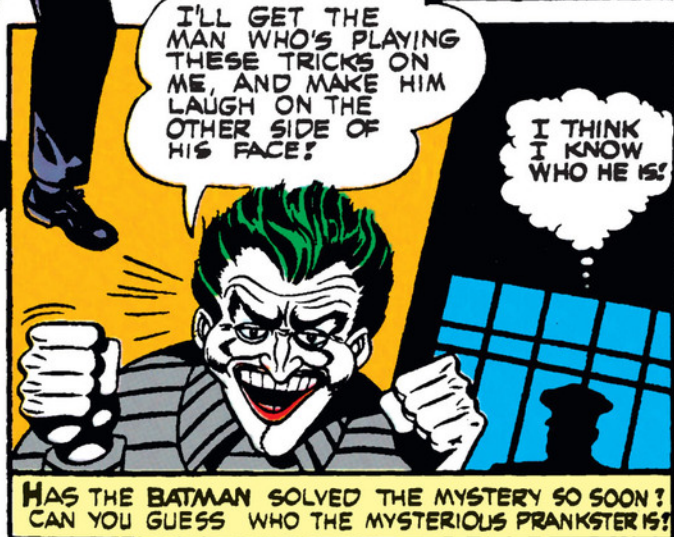
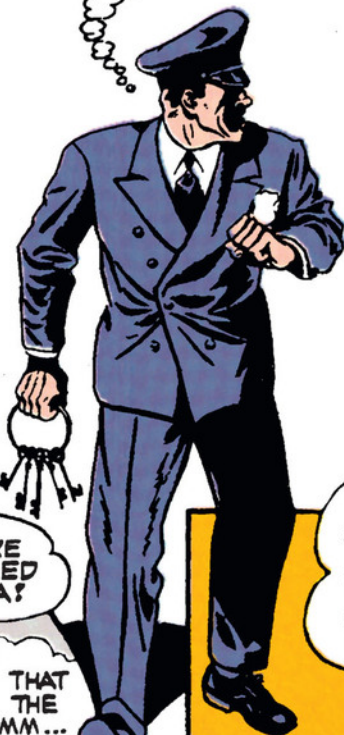
ALL THROUGH
THE
DAY,
THE MASTER
OF
MOCKERY
FINDS
HIMSELF
THE
VICTIM
OF
ONE
CRUEL
JEST
AFTER
ANOTHER!



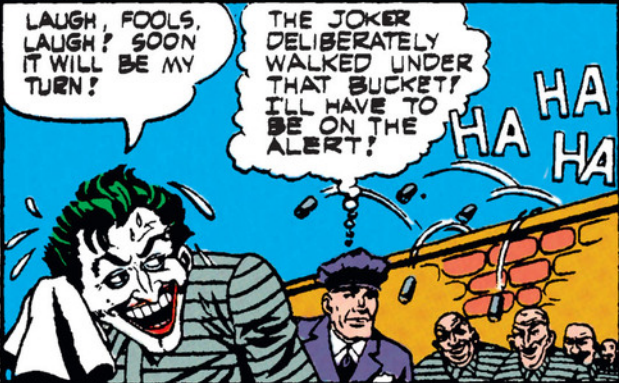




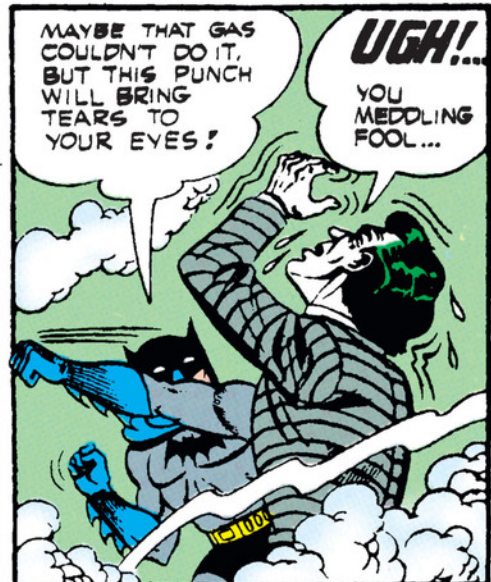
THE JOKER IS TALKING IN RIDDLES TODAY! BUT THERE MUST BE SOMETHING BEHIND HIS WORDS! NERO FIDDED... HMM...



SUDDENLY, WHILE EVERYONE LAUGHS AT THE PLIGHT OF THE KILLER-CLOWN... MENACING MISSILES COME HURTLING FROM OUTSIDE THE PRISON WALL!



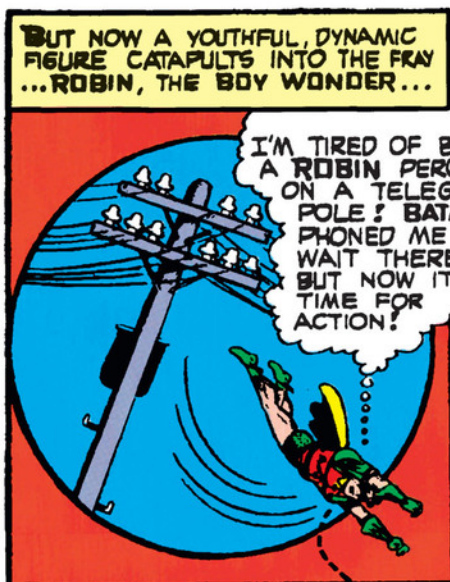
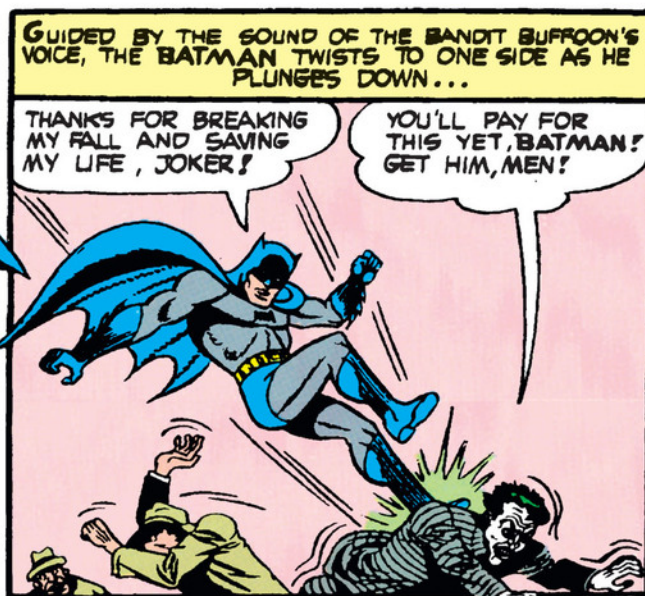
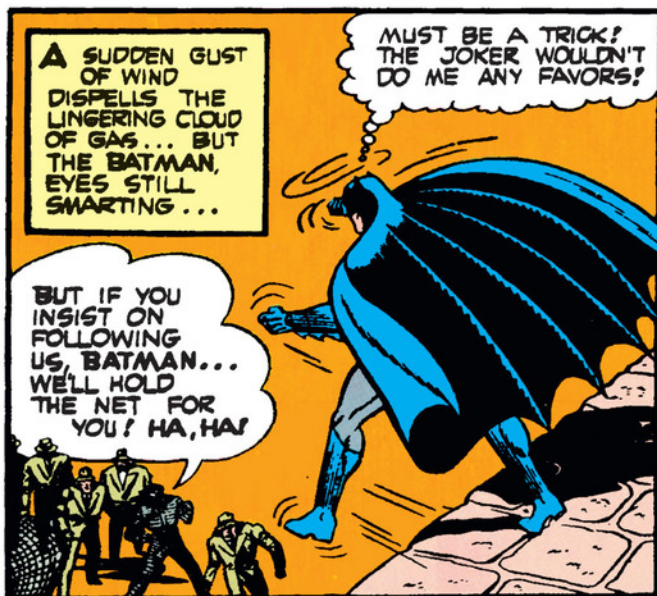
BITING, CHOKING TEAR-GAS FILLS THE PRISON YARD! LAUGHTER GIVES WAY TO UNWILLING WEEPING!



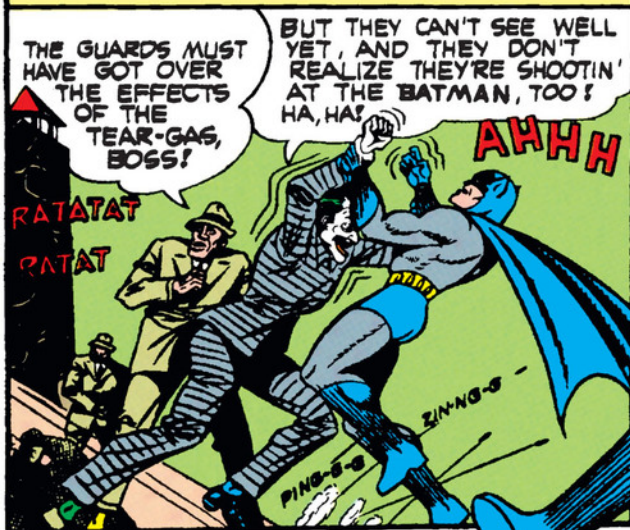
AS THE BATMAN STUMBLES BLINDLY...

SPRINGING FROM BEHIND THE MANTLED NEMESIS OF CRIME, TWO NEWCOMERS SUDDENLY JOIN THE FRAY!

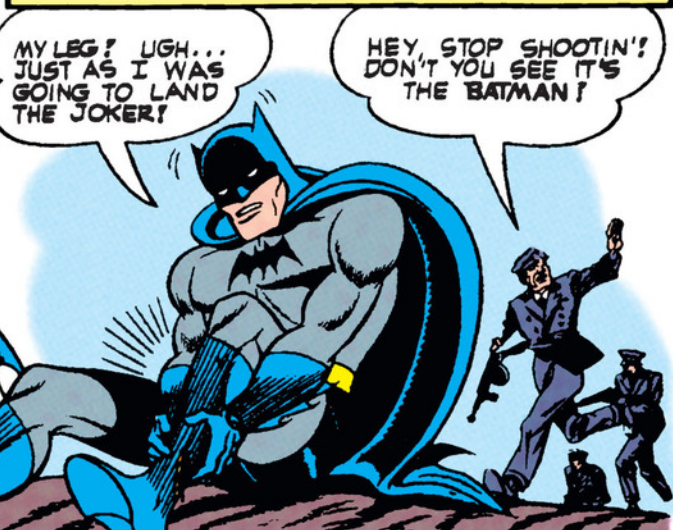




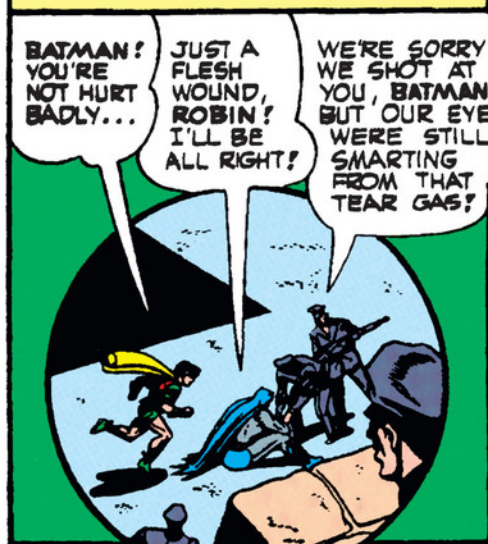
BUT UNEXPECTEDLY, FROM THE PRISON WALLS COMES THE RATTLE OF MACHINE-GUN FIRE!



AS THE GUARDS FIRE WILDLY, THE CRIME CLOWN AND HIS MOB MAKE THEIR ESCAPE! BUT THE BATMAN...



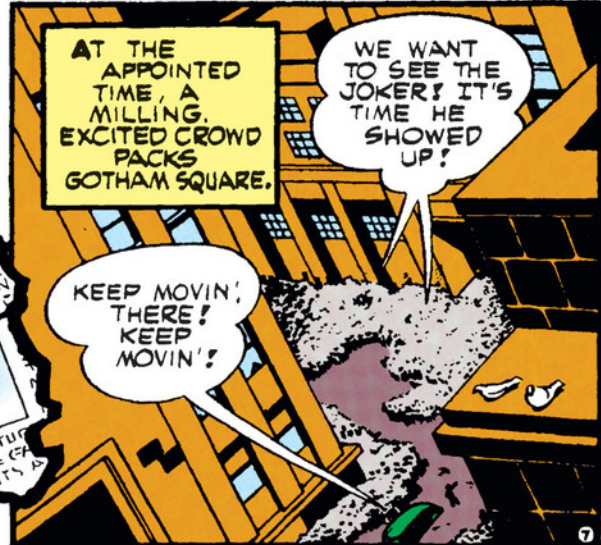
SECONDS LATER, AS ROBIN FINALLY RELEASES HIMSELF FROM THE ENTANGLING MESHES OF THE NET...



AS THE GUARDS DEPART...



BUT I THINK WE'LL RUN INTO HIM AGAIN SOON! HE BOASTED HE WAS GOING TO STEAL A WHOLE CITY...



AS DEEP BELLS CHIME THE HOUR OF EIGHT...

HERE I AM, BOYS! I ALWAYS KEEP MY PROMISES!

WE'VE GOT HIM SURROUNDED! HE CAN'T ESCAPE THIS TIME!



OOPS! THE JOKE'S ON ME! I SLIPPED!

HERE'S WHERE YOU SLIP BACK TO JAIL!



SUDDENLY, FROM THE WINDOWS OF A NEARBY BUILDING, COMES A SHOWER OF BANANA PEELS, CAST BY THE JOKER'S THUGS!



HA-HA! HAPPY LANDINGS, COPPER! I DIDN'T SAY I'D BE THE ONLY ONE TO SLIP!



HERE'S THE TREASURE I CAME FOR! A MODEL OF GOTHAM CITY... MADE WITH PRECIOUS STONES, AND DONE WITH SKILL THAT CAN'T BE MATCHED! IT'S WORTH A MILLION!



AS THE EVIL HARLEQUIN'S HENCHMEN DESCEND FROM THE UPPER STORIES OF THE BUILDING...

CARRY IT INTO THE ELEVATOR AND WE'LL TAKE IT UP TO THE ROOF! QUICK, BEFORE THOSE COPS RECOVER!

SURE, BOSS! AND IF THOSE COPS TRY TO BOTHER US, WE'LL LET 'EM HAVE A FEW MORE BANANA PEELS!

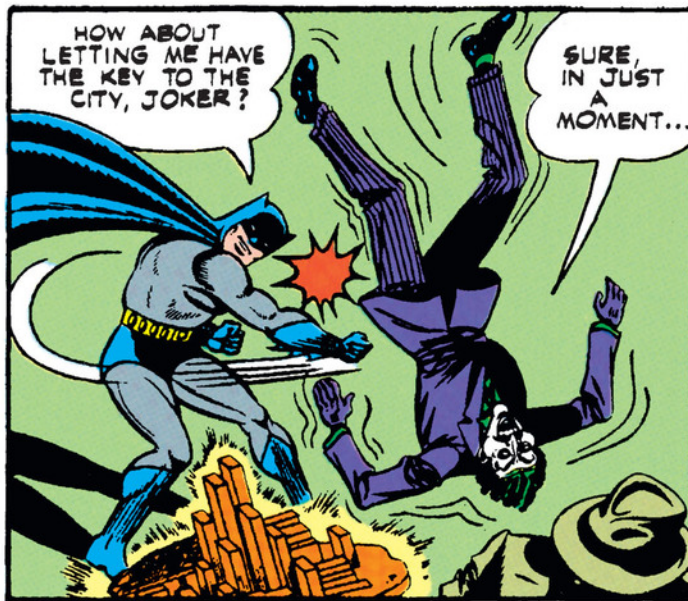


SUDDENLY... FROM THE DOOR TO THE CELLAR...

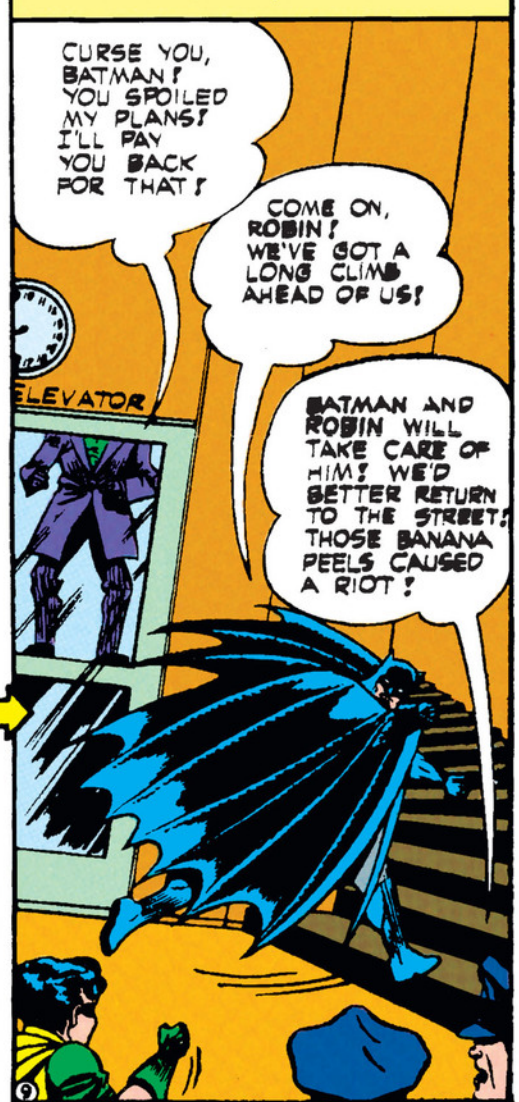
I FIGURED THIS MIGHT BE WHAT THE JOKER MEANT WHEN HE SAID HE'D STEAL A CITY!

THAT PAIR BUTTING IN AGAIN!





BEFORE THE DYNAMIC DUO CAN RECOVER, THE EVIL KING OF COMEDIANS IS ON HIS WAY TO SAFETY...



AS TWO MANTLED SHAPES EMERGE ON THE ROOFTOP...

I DON'T SEE HIM, BATMAN?

WE'LL SPLIT UP, ROBIN, AND GO IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS! LET ME KNOW IF YOU PICK UP ANY SIGN OF HIM!

ON A NEARBY ROOFTOP, AN OPEN DOORWAY BECKONS! AS BATMAN MOVES FORWARD CAUTIOUSLY...

BETTER WATCH MY STEP! THE JOKER MAY BE LYING IN WAIT FOR ME!

SUDDENLY, THE MASTER CRIME-FIGHTER SEES THE LEERING FACE OF THE HARLEQUIN HATE!

WAITING FOR ME, JOKER? WELL, I DON'T WANT YOU TO WASTE YOUR TIME... HERE I COME!

YOU'RE SLIPPERY, JOKER... BUT YOU'RE NOT SLIDING OUT OF THIS!

THIS IS GOING TO HURT YOU MORE THAN IT DOES ME, BATMAN!

HA, HA! HIT ME AGAIN, BATMAN!

WHAT... HUH...?

CRASH

I SEE... MIRRORS!

NOT ALL THE FIGURES ARE REFLECTIONS, BATMAN! ONE OF THEM IS REAL!

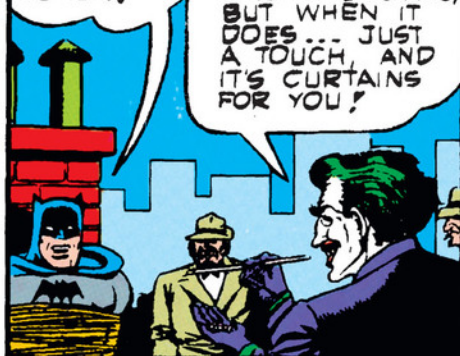
WHY NOT SHOOT HIM NOW AND GET IT OVER WITH, BOSS!

SILENCE, FOOL! THE JOKER ISN'T SO CRUDE! I PREFER TO HAVE BATMAN FURNISH ME WITH SOME INNOCENT AMUSEMENT FIRST!

THE BOUND FIGURE OF THE EVIL JESTER'S ARCH-FOE IS CARRIED TO THE ROOF ONCE MORE...

SO YOU'RE GOING IN FOR PEA-SHOOTING NOW, JOKER?

YES, BATMAN! MIXED IN WITH THESE PEAS IS A POISONED DART... YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN IT'S COMING, BUT WHEN IT DOES... JUST A TOUCH, AND IT'S CURTAINS FOR YOU!



MEANWHILE, UNSUCCESSFUL IN PICKING UP THE JOKER'S TRAIL, THE BOY WONDER RETRACES HIS STEPS... AND HEARS A TAUNTING LAUGH...

BULL'S-EYE AGAIN! SOON I'LL BE SHOOTING THAT POISON DART, BATMAN! HA, HA!

GOLLY! BATMAN CAPTURED-- IN DANGER! GOT TO DO SOMETHING, BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM!... AH, HERE'S SOMETHING THAT OUGHT TO BE USEFUL!

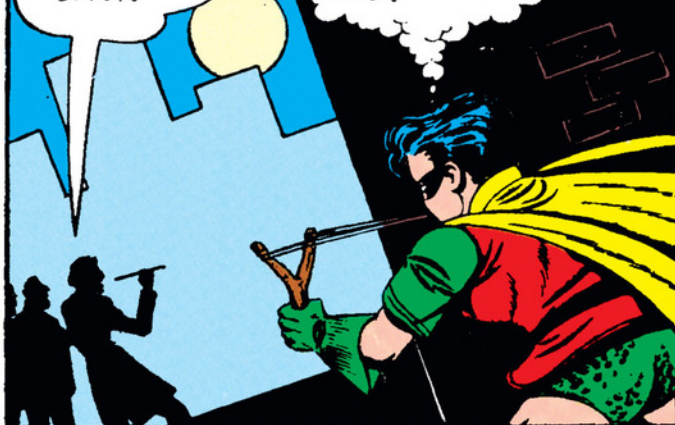


THE WIND MUST HAVE BLOWN IT HERE... NOW, WITH THIS HEAVY RUBBER BAND I PICKED UP TO TURN IN FOR SALVAGE, AND SOME STONES FROM THE ROOF...



HA, HA! MAYBE THIS ONE IS THE POISONED DART?

THE JOKER IS IN A LAUGHING MOOD! I HOPE HE APPRECIATES THE HUMOR OF THIS!



IT MUST BE A COP! HE'S SHOOTIN' AT US WITH A SILENCED GUN!



THIS PROVES THAT THE SLINGSHOT IS MIGHTIER THAN THE PEASHOOTER!

NOW TO DISGUISE MY VOICE... BETTER SURRENDER, JOKER! I'VE GOT YOU COVERED!



OWW... I'M WOUNDED... I'M KILLED...

BETTER GET OUT OF HERE, BOSS, BEFORE THAT SHARP-SHOOTER PICKS US ALL OFF!

YOU'RE LUCKY THIS TIME BATMAN, BUT YOU WON'T ESCAPE SO EASILY AGAIN!



AS THE BAFFLED BUFFOON MAKES A HASTY RETREAT...

SO IT WAS YOU, ROBIN! DON'T TELL ME YOU USED A GUN!

IT WAS ONLY A SLINGSHOT, BATMAN! BUT THE JOKER DIDN'T SEE ME, AND IT WAS GOOD ENOUGH TO BLUFF HIM!



A FEW DAYS LATER... THE WORTHFUL MENACE SHOWS HIS SINISTER HAND ONCE MORE...

Dear Commissioner Gordon:
Tonight you will see the Joker become the victim of a whole series of practical jokes in Gotham Square! I will not play any jokes on the police this time! I'll be counting on you to be there!
The Joker

A FURIOUS POLICE COMMISSIONER SCANS THE JOKER'S IMPUDENT LETTER...

THIS TIME THE JOKER HAS GONE TOO FAR! THE MOMENT HE SETS FOOT IN GOTHAM SQUARE, WE'LL NAB HIM!

EVERY POLICEMAN WE CAN SPARE WILL BE COVERING THE PLACE!

IT'S THE JOKER, ALL RIGHT!

THAT NIGHT AS THE POLICE WAIT IMPATIENTLY...

BUT NOT IN PERSON! IT'S ONLY A MOVIE!

SOMEBODY'S MAKING A FOOL OF THE JOKER... BUT ONLY IN THE MOVIE!

HEY!

THE JOKER KEPT HIS WORD... BUT HE TRICKED US, ANYWAY!

THE JOKE'S ON US!

MEANWHILE, LEARNING OF THE JOKER'S MISSIVE, THE BATMAN HAS MADE PLANS OF HIS OWN...

EDITH MUSIC CO.

RARE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

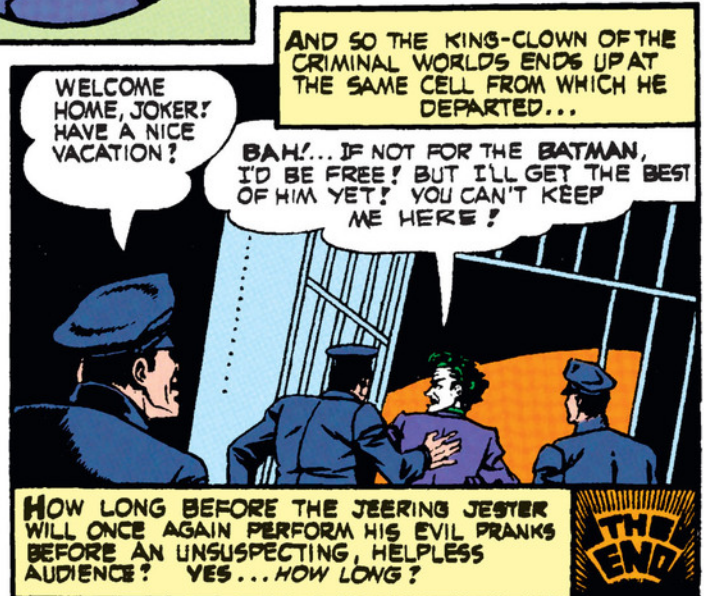
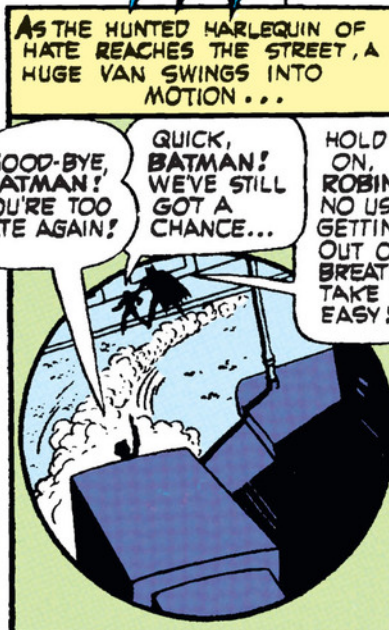
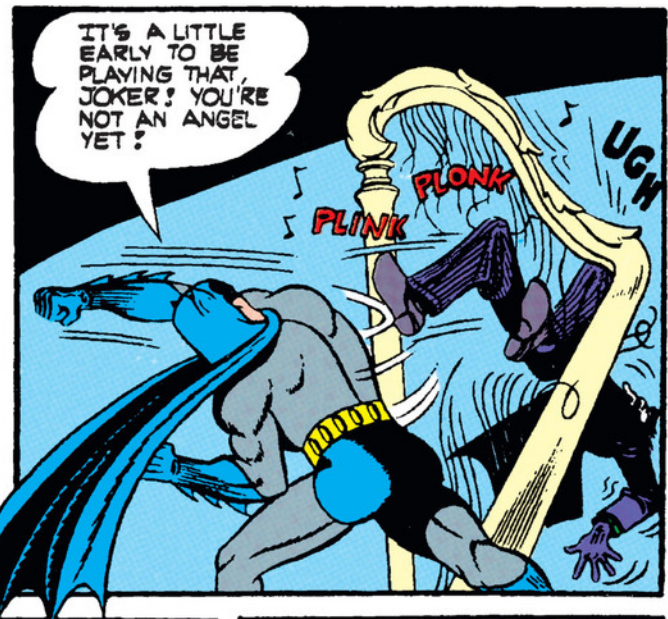
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF COMING HERE BATMAN?

I THINK WE'RE GOING TO FIND AN OLD FRIEND, ROBIN! HE USED A TRICK TO GET THE POLICE AWAY FROM HERE, BUT I KNOW HE'LL BE HAPPY TO SEE US!

HOW'D YOU KNOW WE'D FIND THE JOKER HERE?

A REMARK OF HIS IN JAIL ABOUT NERO FIDDLING WHILE ROME BURNED! IT REVEALED WHAT WAS ON HIS MIND!

THIS RARE OLD STRADIVARIUS IS WORTH \$50,000! IT... WHAT...!?!



BATMAN
No.25

OCT...NOV.



BATMAN

**ARE TWO VILLAINS
BETTER THAN ONE?**

JOKER AND PENGUIN
GET TOGETHER
IN THIS ISSUE!

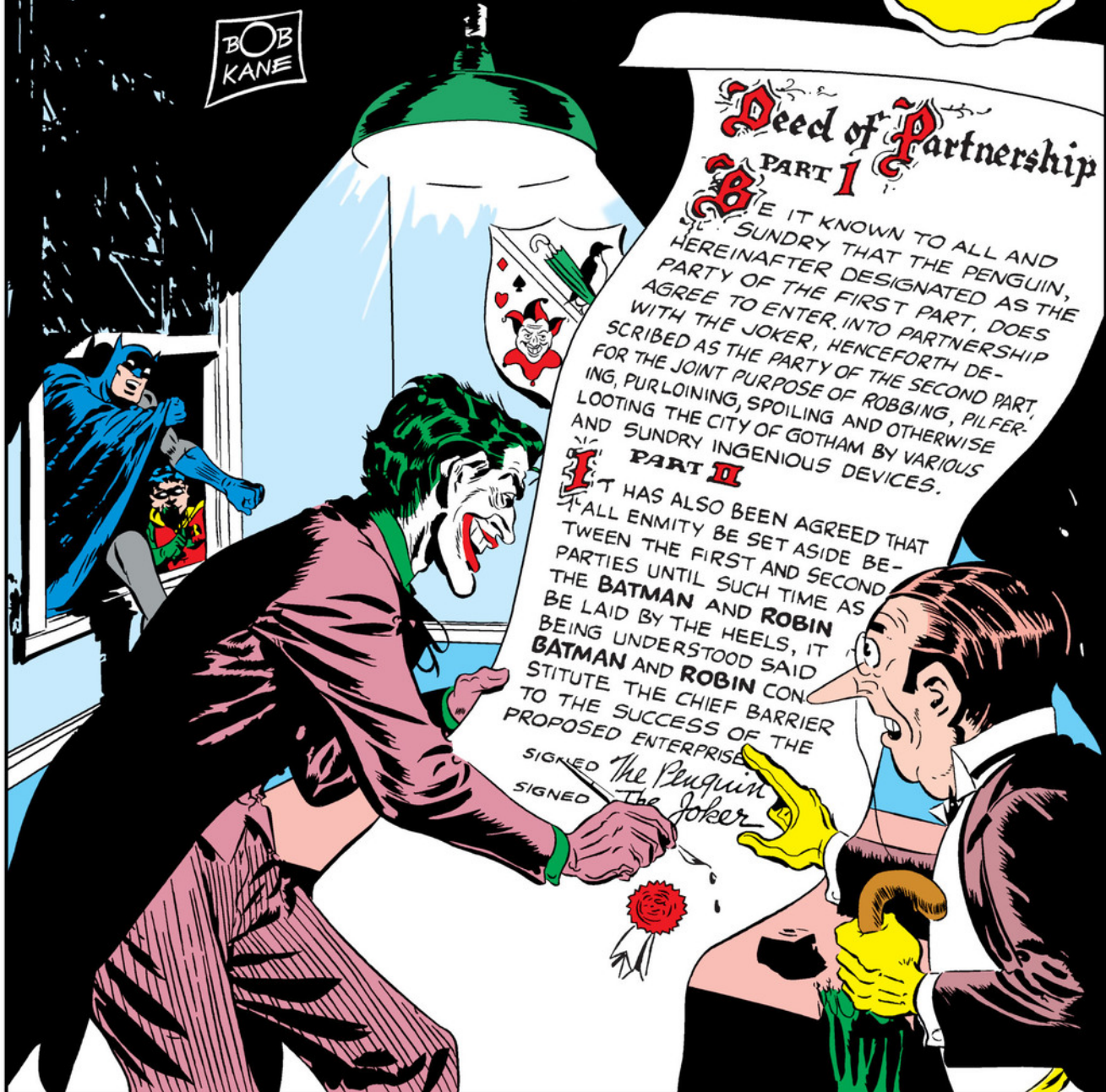


BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
-THE BOY WONDER-

**KNIGHTS
of
KNAVERY**

BOB
KANE



NESTLED AMONGST THE ROLLING SLOPES OF GOTHAM'S SUBURBS LIES THE HOME OF THE RICHEST WOMAN IN TOWN, MRS. VAN LANDORPF...



WHAT A SERENE AND TRANQUIL PICTURE ---

BUT WAIT--!

DEAR ME -- TO THINK THAT ONE OF MY INTELLECT SHOULD WALK INTO SUCH A TRAP. HASTE IS MY ONLY RESOURCE NOW!



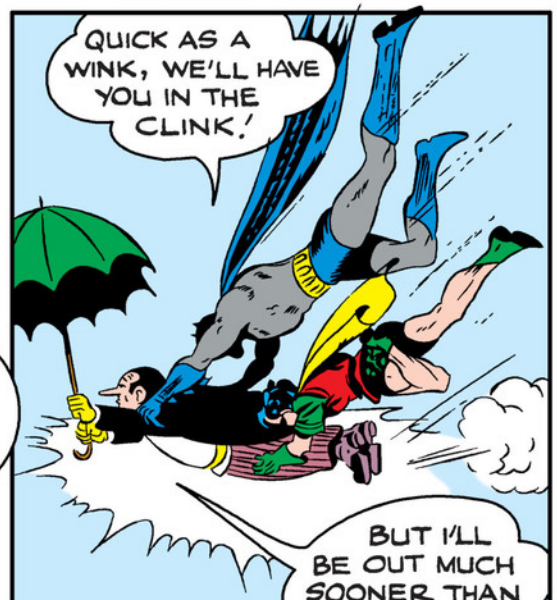
NO-YOU ARE NOT DECEIVED. IT IS INDEED THE PENGUIN, THAT GROTESQUE BIRD OF ILL-OMEN!

THE BATMAN AND ROBIN! WILL THOSE TWO NEVER CEASE TO HAUNT MY WAKING MOMENTS?



HE CAN'T GET AWAY FROM US NOW, BATMAN!

QUICK AS A WINK, WE'LL HAVE YOU IN THE CLINK!



BUT I'LL BE OUT MUCH SOONER THAN YOU THINK!

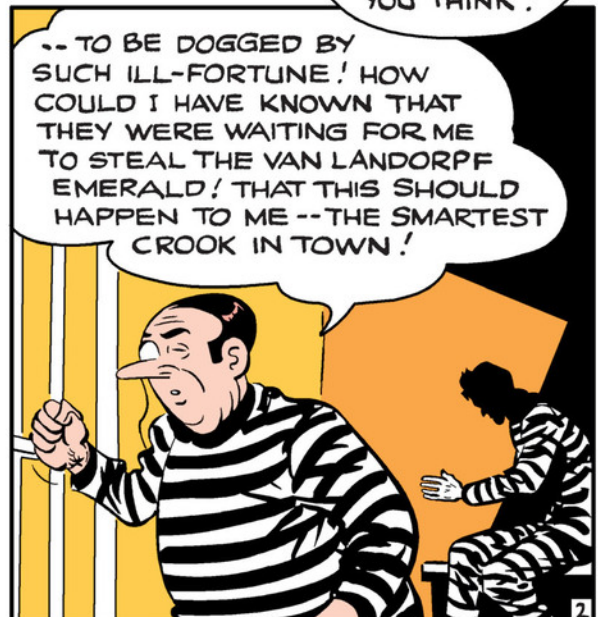
A SHORT WHILE LATER, AT GOTHAM PENITENTIARY --

WELL, PENGUIN -- HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE HOME AGAIN?

TERRIBLE! BUT WAIT AND SEE IF I DON'T BEGIN TO ROAM AGAIN.



-- TO BE DOGGED BY SUCH ILL-FORTUNE! HOW COULD I HAVE KNOWN THAT THEY WERE WAITING FOR ME TO STEAL THE VAN LANDORPF EMERALD! THAT THIS SHOULD HAPPEN TO ME -- THE SMARTEST CROOK IN TOWN!





HA-HA! HO-HO-HO! LOOK WHO CALLS HIMSELF THE SMARTEST CROOK IN TOWN!

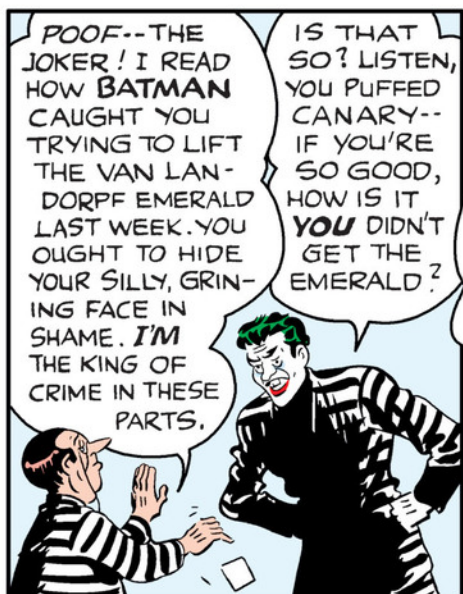
HUH? WHY THIS RAUCOUS OUTBURST OF MIRTH, MY LAUGHING HYENA?



THOSE SPINE-CHILLING CHUCKLES! THAT SATANIC VOICE! WHERE HAVE WE HEARD THEM BEFORE?

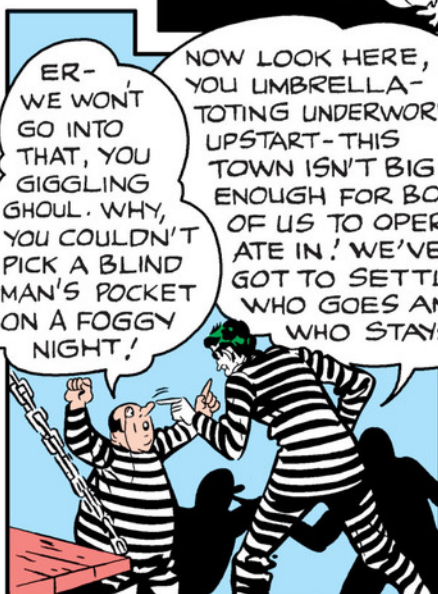
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE SMARTEST CROOK IN TOWN-- MY CARD!

THE JOKER! THAT LEERING MONSTER OF MENACE! WHAT STRANGE TWIST OF FATE HAS PLACED HIM IN THE SAME CELL AS THE PENGUIN? WHAT IMPISH IRONY HAS BROUGHT THESE TWINS IN TRANSGRESSION FACE TO FACE? CAN PRISON WALLS CONTAIN THIS COMBINATION OF CRAFT AND CUNNING?



POOF--THE JOKER! I READ HOW **BATMAN** CAUGHT YOU TRYING TO LIFT THE VAN LANDORPF EMERALD LAST WEEK. YOU OUGHT TO HIDE YOUR SILLY, GRINNING FACE IN SHAME. I'M THE KING OF CRIME IN THESE PARTS.

IS THAT SO? LISTEN, YOU PUFFED CANARY-- IF YOU'RE SO GOOD, HOW IS IT **YOU** DIDN'T GET THE EMERALD?



ER-- WE WON'T GO INTO THAT, YOU GIGGLING GHOUL. WHY, YOU COULDN'T PICK A BLIND MAN'S POCKET ON A FOGGY NIGHT!

NOW LOOK HERE, YOU UMBRELLA-TOTING UNDERWORLD UPSTART-- THIS TOWN ISN'T BIG ENOUGH FOR BOTH OF US TO OPERATE IN! WE'VE GOT TO SETTLE WHO GOES AND WHO STAYS!



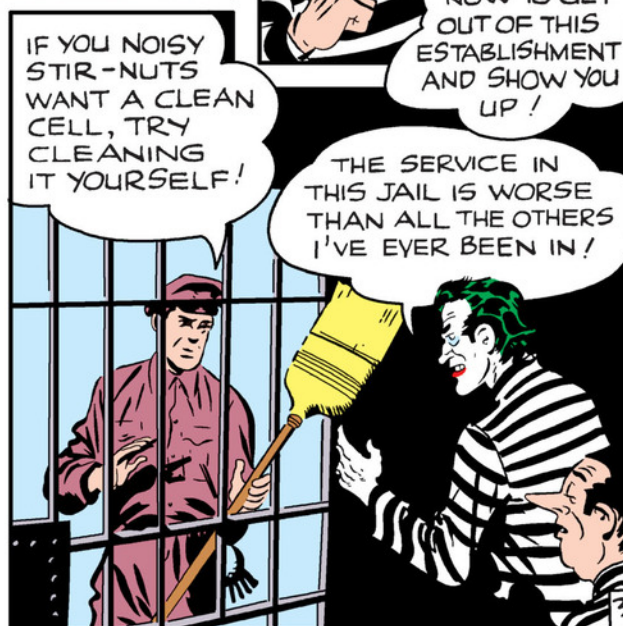
THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH ME. HOW ABOUT A LITTLE CONTEST? WE'RE BOTH AFTER THE VAN LANDORPF EMERALD-- SHALL WE SAY THAT WHOEVER GETS IT FIRST WINS EXCLUSIVE CONTROL OF THE GOTHAM CITY TERRITORY?

THAT SUITS ME FINE! NOW TO GET OUT OF THIS ESTABLISHMENT AND SHOW YOU UP!



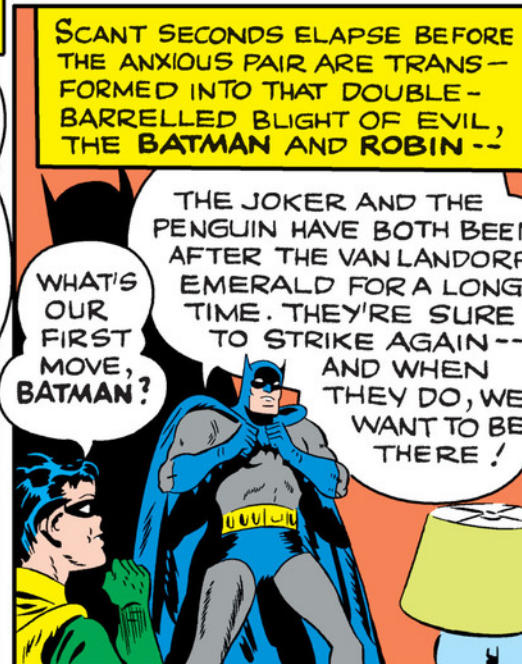
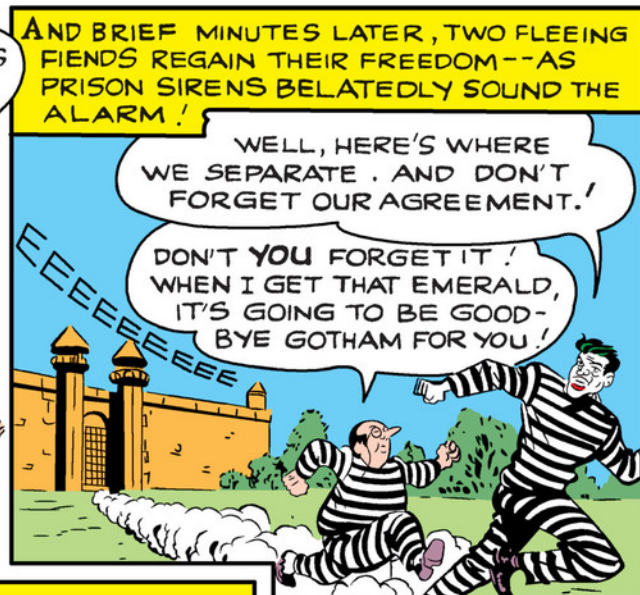
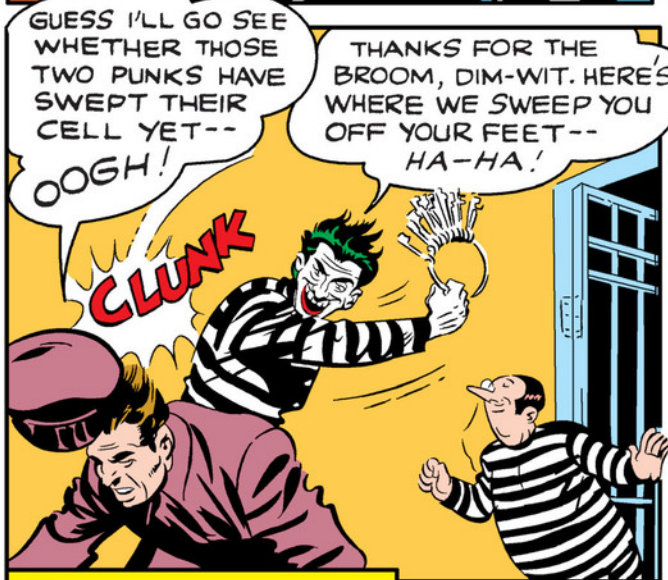
WE DEMAND A CLEAN CELL! THIS PLACE IS A PIG-STY!

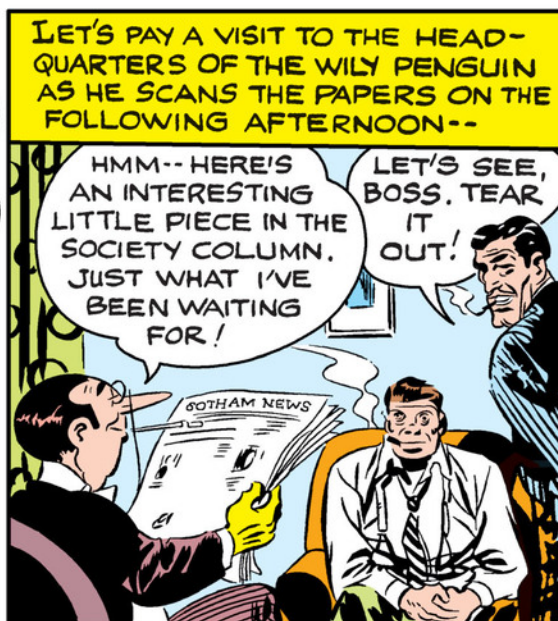
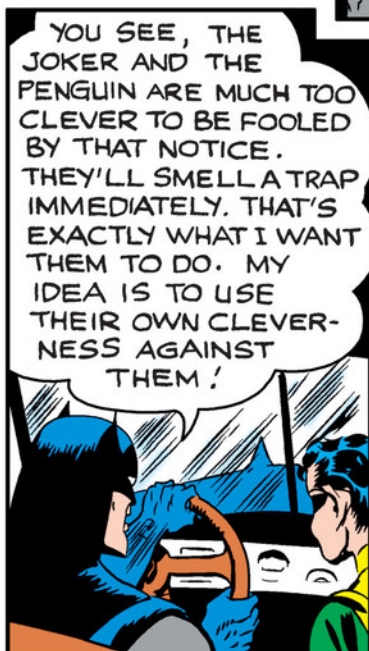
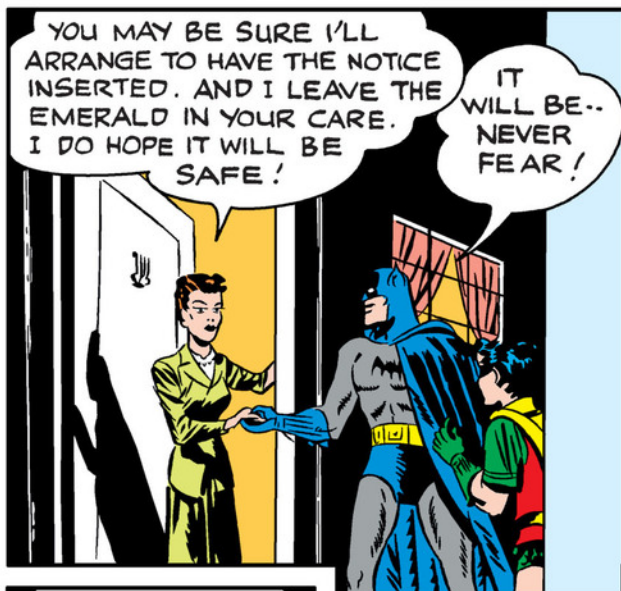
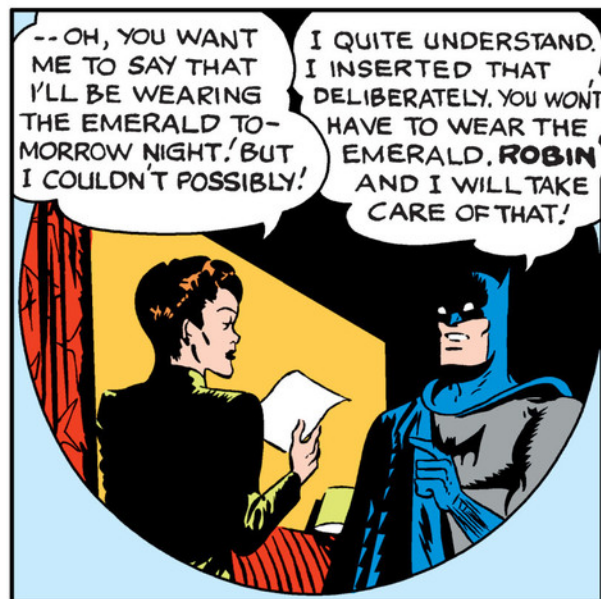
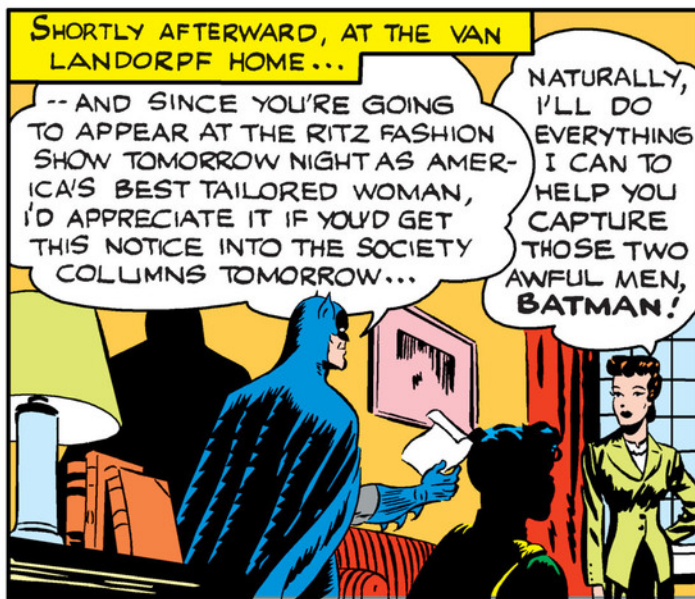
THE FLOOR HASN'T BEEN SWEEPED IN A MONTH!

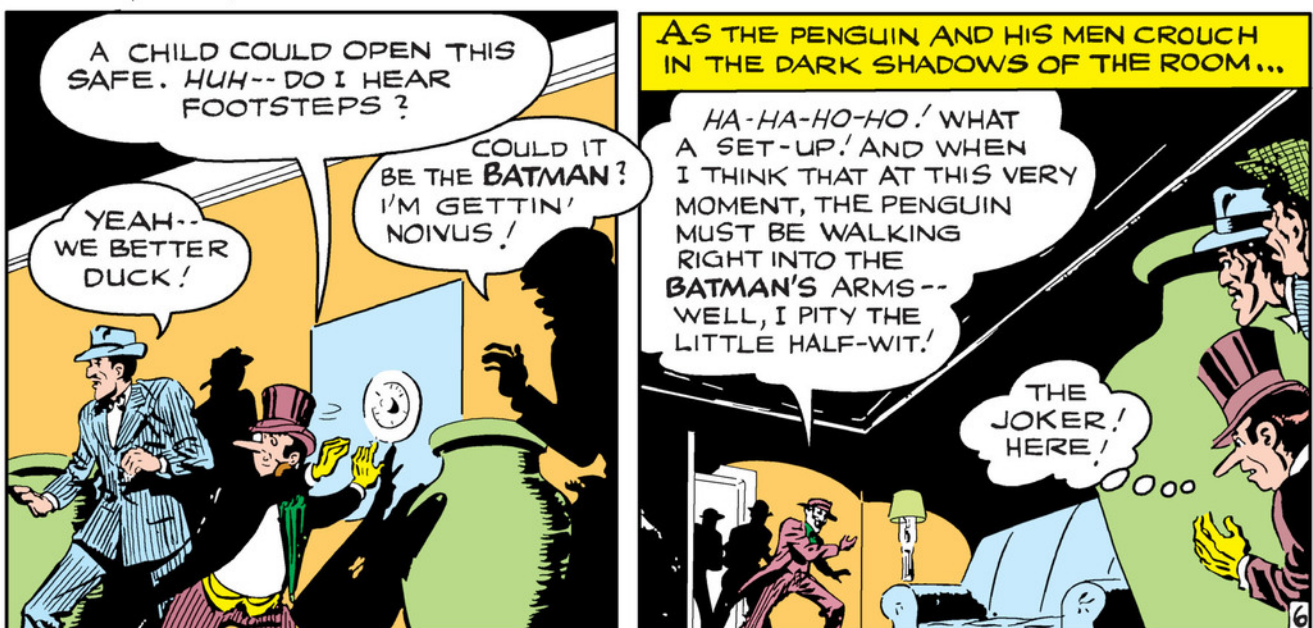
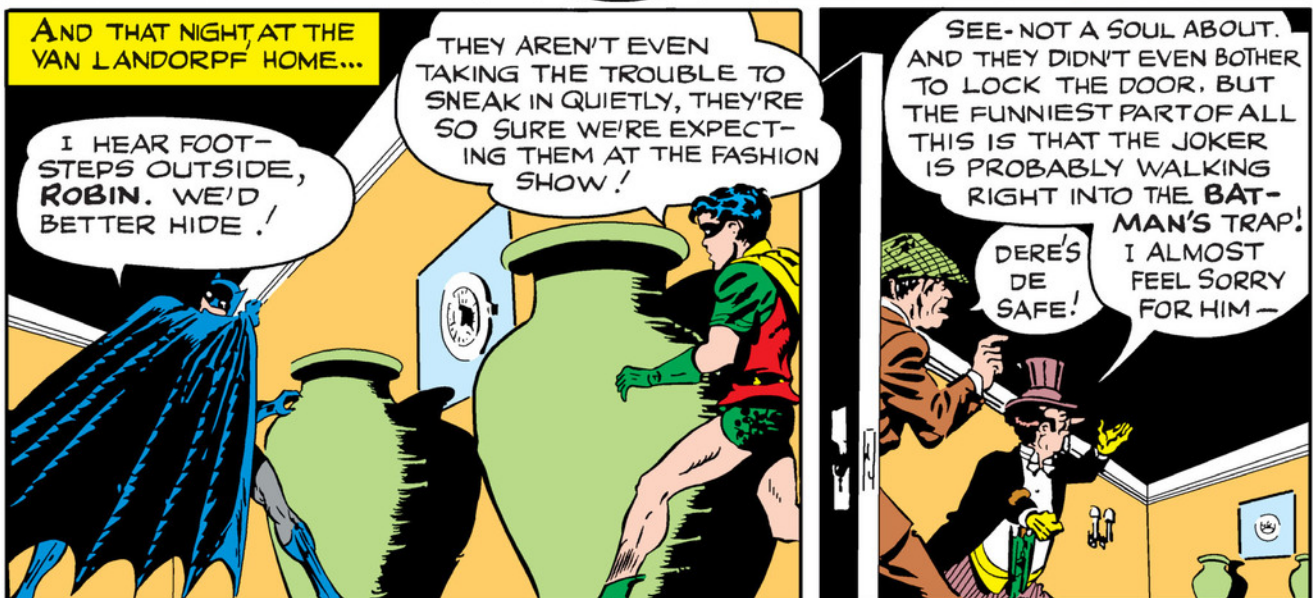
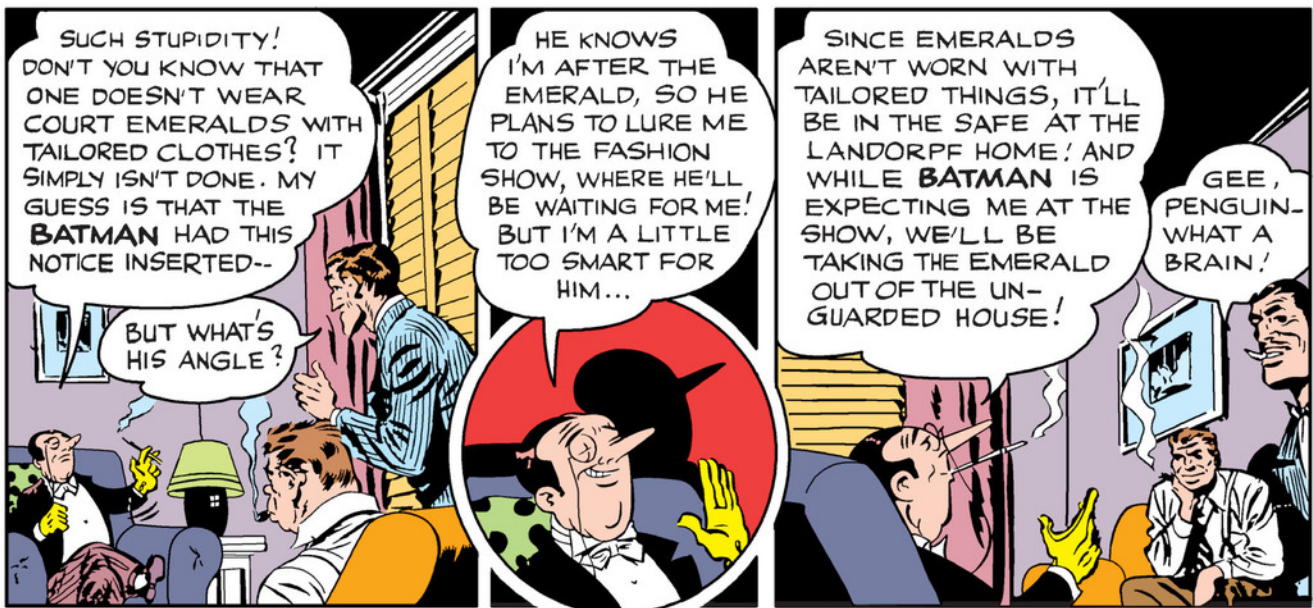


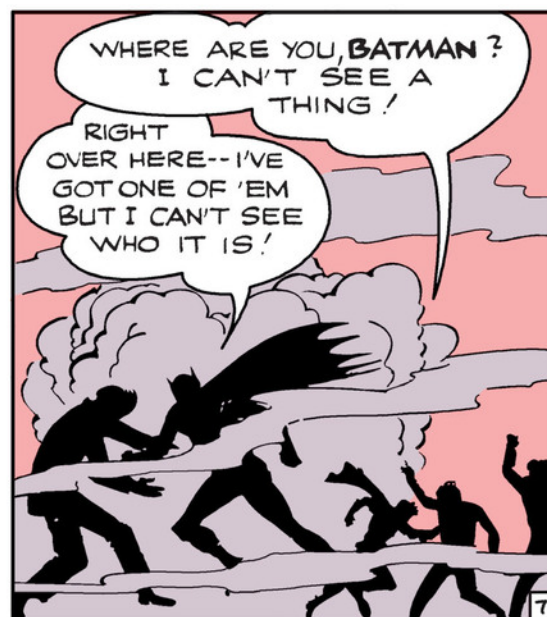
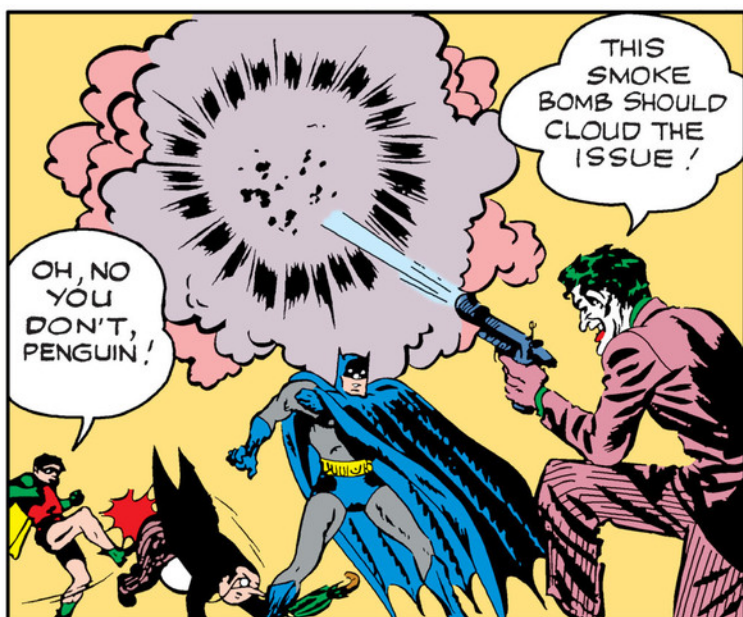
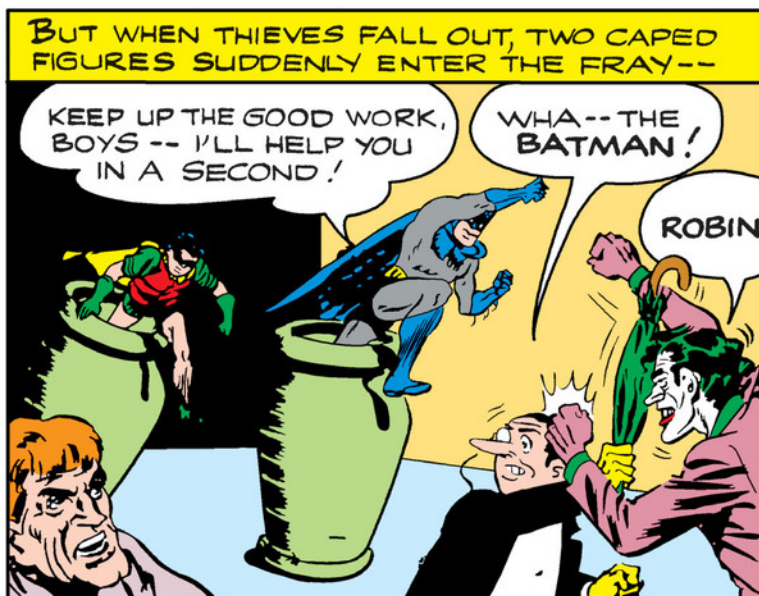
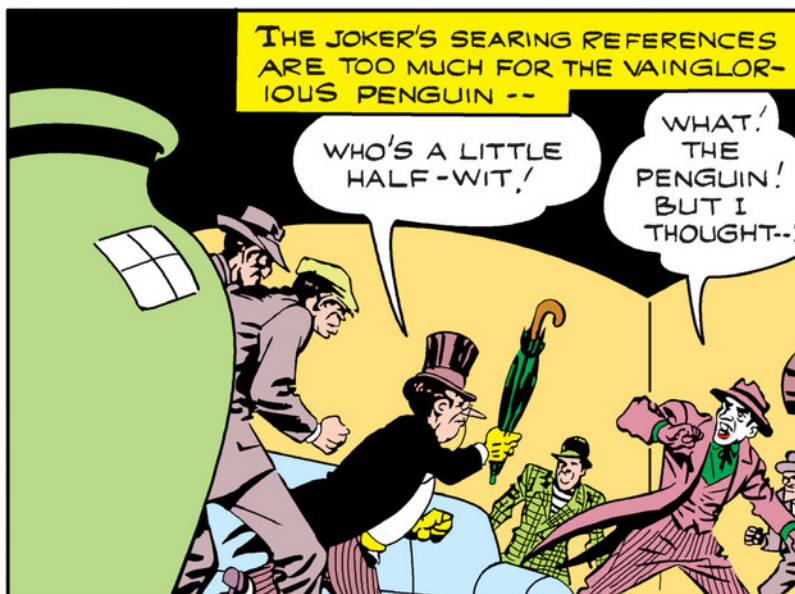
IF YOU NOISY STIR-NUTS WANT A CLEAN CELL, TRY CLEANING IT YOURSELF!

THE SERVICE IN THIS JAIL IS WORSE THAN ALL THE OTHERS I'VE EVER BEEN IN!



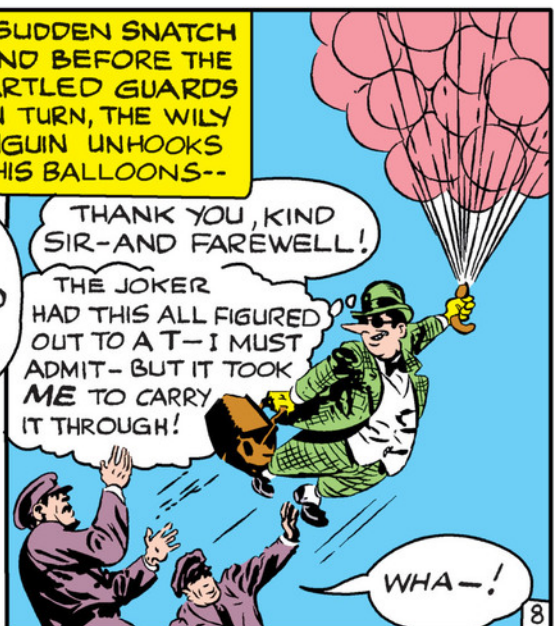
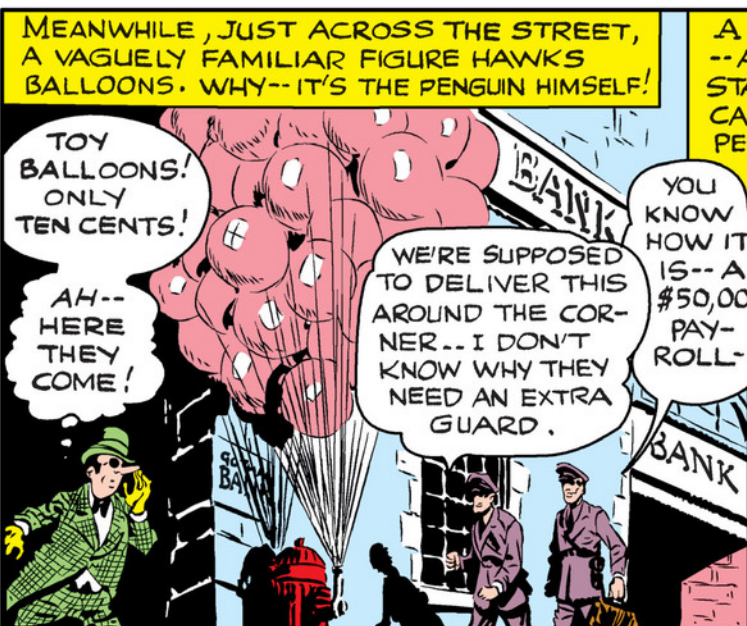
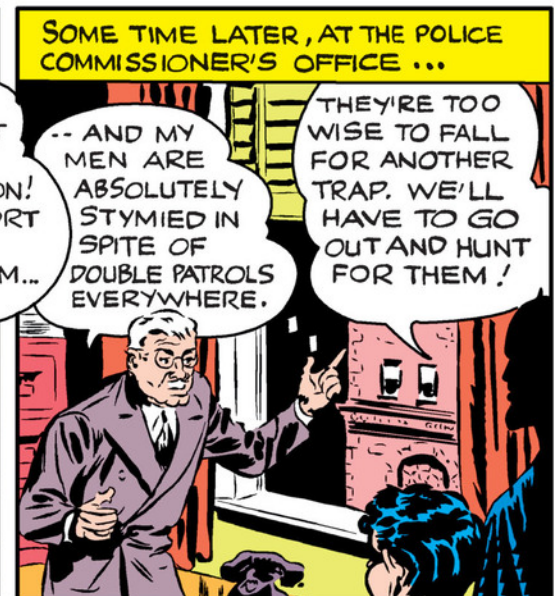
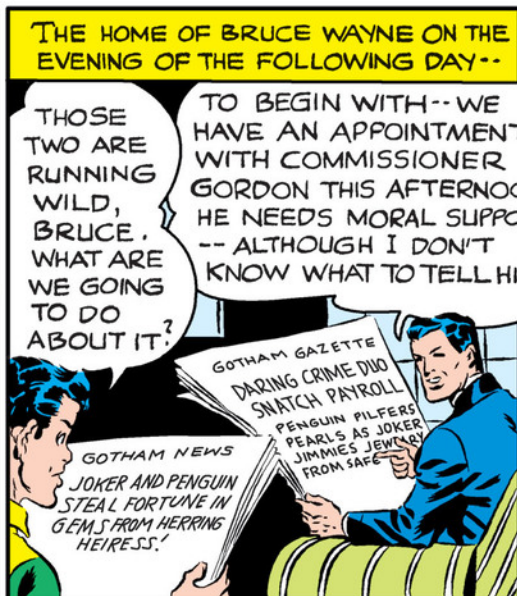




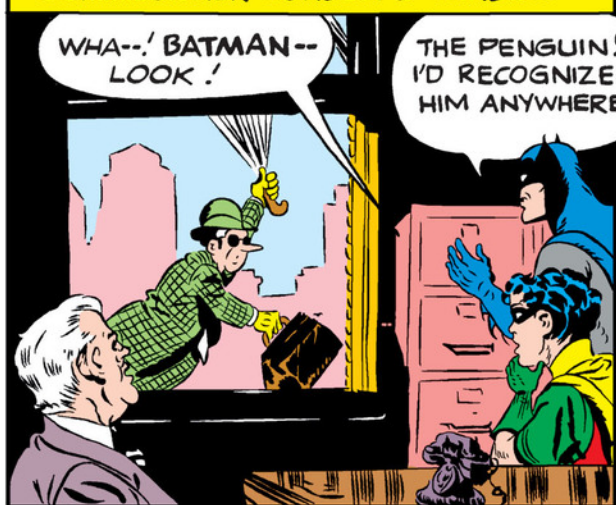




SO IS BORN A PERNICIOUS PARTNERSHIP UNITING THE JOCLAR GENIUS OF THE JOKER WITH THE PREDATORY PROFICIENCY OF THE PENGUIN. AND NOT MANY HOURS PASS BEFORE THIS UNHOLY UNION OF MASTER-MINDS STRIKES WITH SWIFT, EVIL EFFICIENCY!



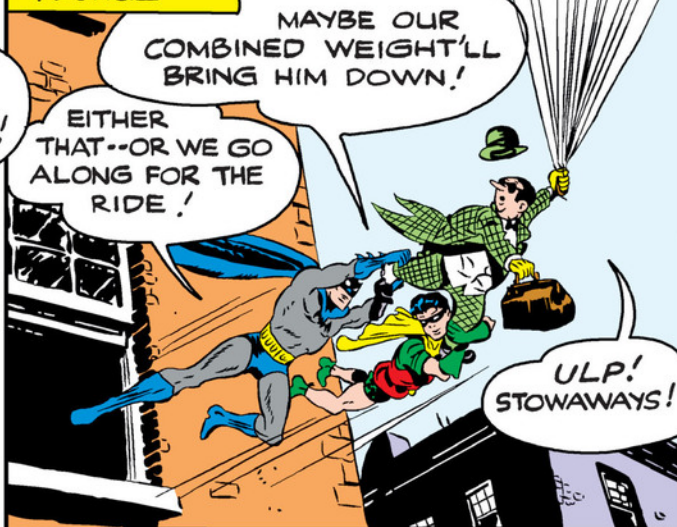
AS THE BALLOONS STREAK SKYWARD, THE WIND CARRIES THE PENGUIN PAST COMMISSIONER GORDON'S WINDOW--



WHA--! BATMAN--
LOOK!

THE PENGUIN!
I'D RECOGNIZE
HIM ANYWHERE!

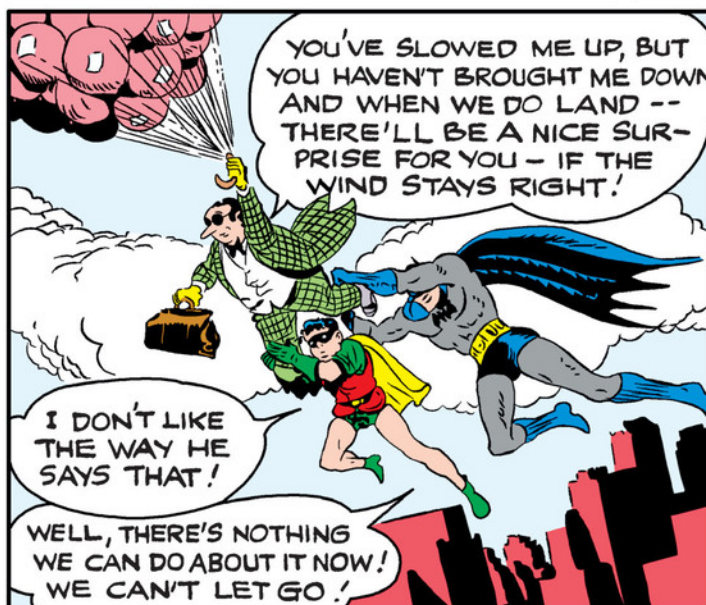
TWO CAPED FIGURES MAKE A DESPERATE
PLUNGE ---



MAYBE OUR
COMBINED WEIGHT'LL
BRING HIM DOWN!

EITHER
THAT--OR WE GO
ALONG FOR THE
RIDE!

ULP!
STOWAWAYS!



YOU'VE SLOWED ME UP, BUT
YOU HAVEN'T BROUGHT ME DOWN!
AND WHEN WE DO LAND --
THERE'LL BE A NICE SUR-
PRISE FOR YOU - IF THE
WIND STAYS RIGHT!

I DON'T LIKE
THE WAY HE
SAYS THAT!

WELL, THERE'S NOTHING
WE CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW!
WE CAN'T LET GO!

ON A HIGHWAY SEVERAL MILES
AWAY-- THE PENGUIN'S JOGUND
PARTNER --



HERE HE COMES NOW! WHA--
HE HAS BATMAN AND ROBIN
WITH HIM! GET THE NET READY,
BOYS --AND
PREPARE FOR
ACTION!

WE'RE
ALL
SET!

THE BARK OF A SHOT GUN FROM
BELOW, AND--

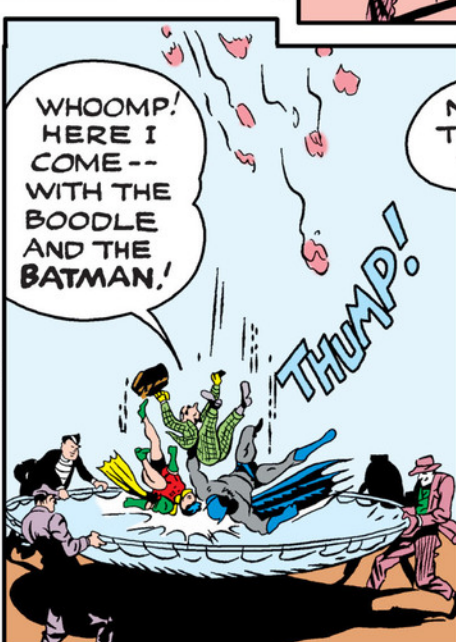


AH-- MY
PARTNER'S
ON THE JOB!

WE'RE
FALLING!

IF THE
PENGUIN
LANDS
SAFELY--
SO WILL
WE!

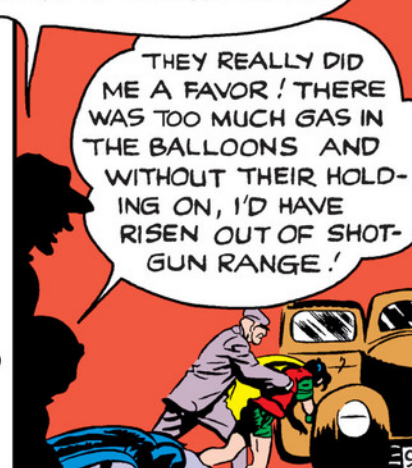
BANG
BANG



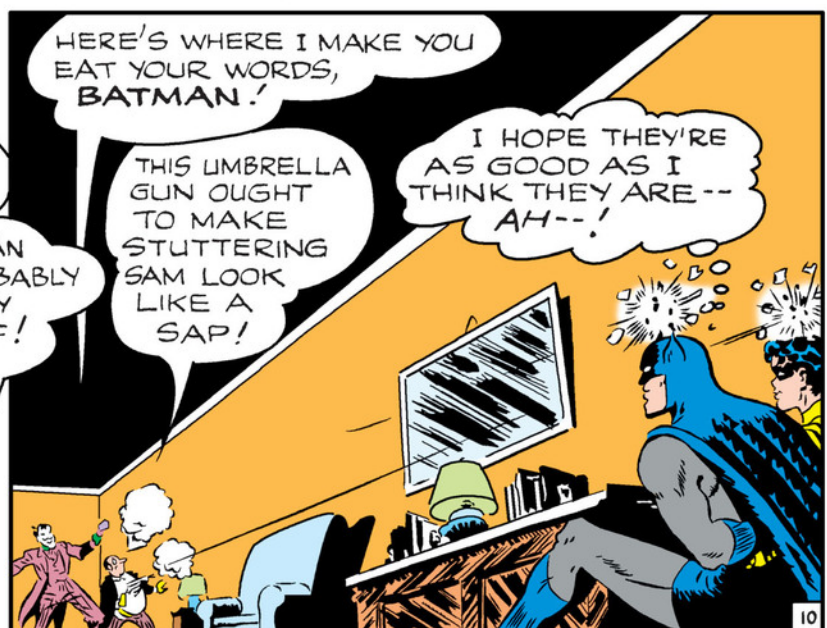
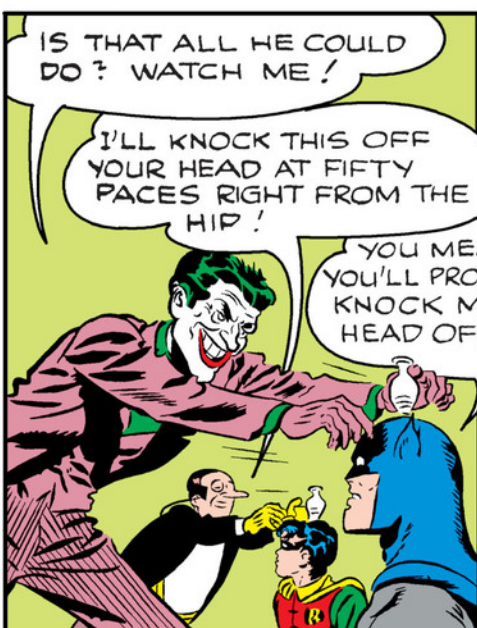
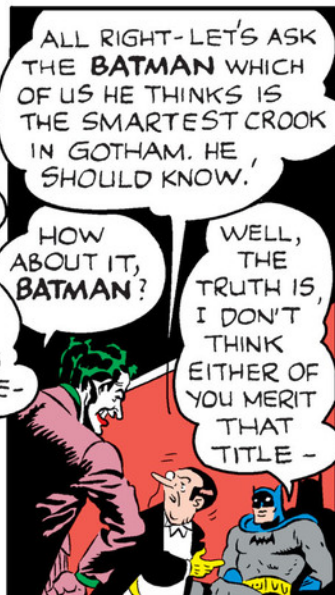
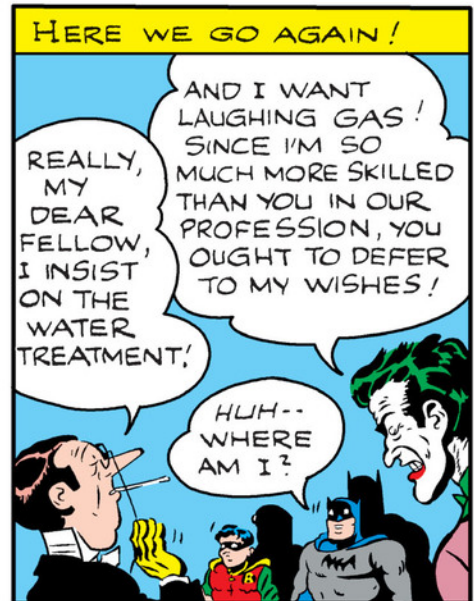
WHOOOMP!
HERE I
COME --
WITH THE
BOODLE
AND THE
BATMAN!

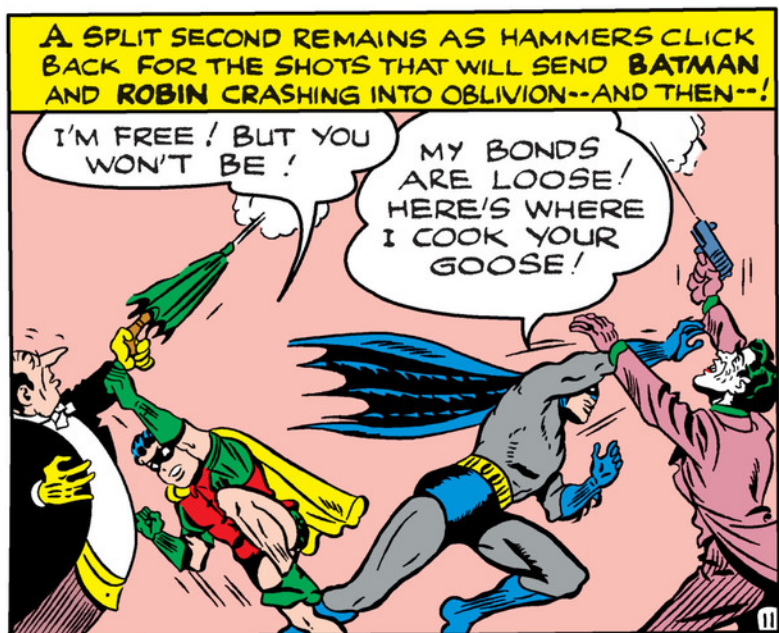
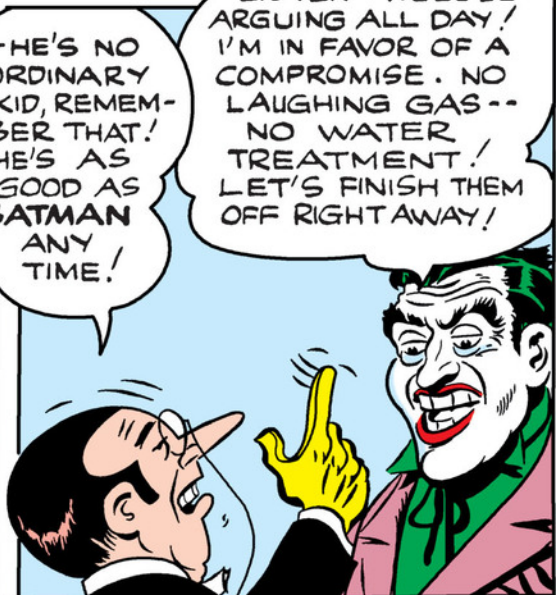
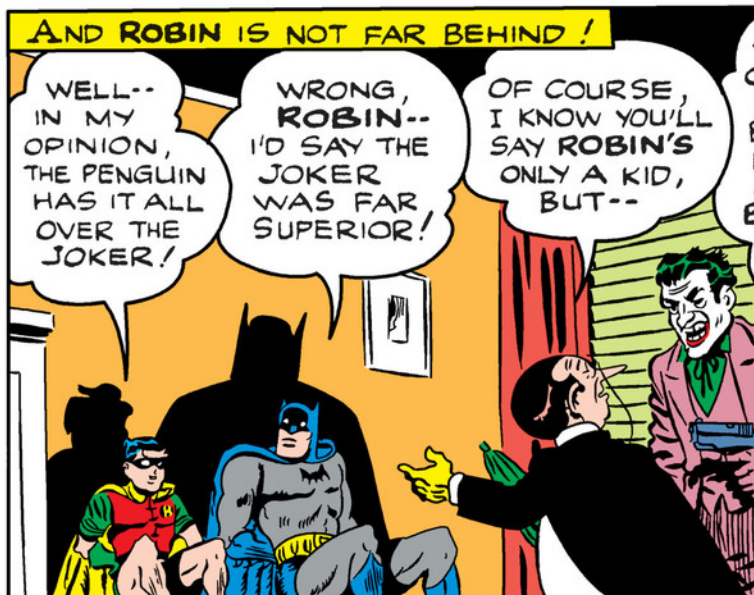
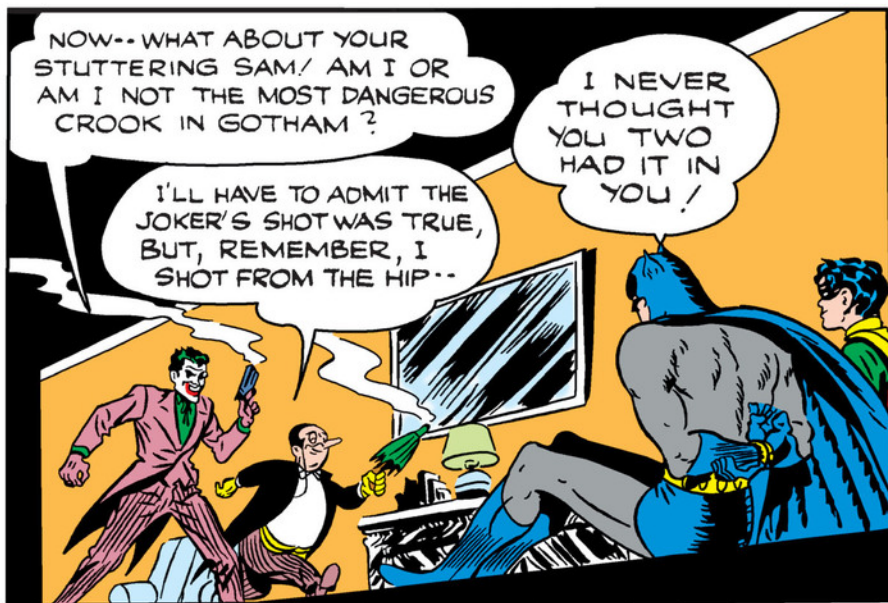
THUMP!

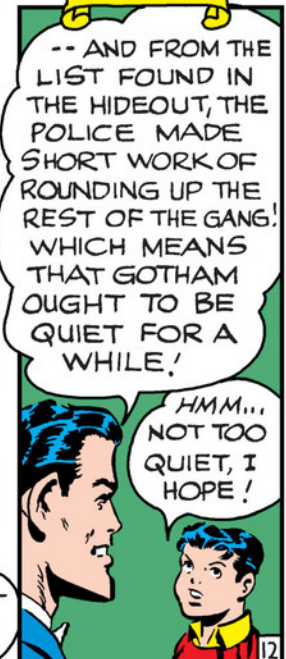
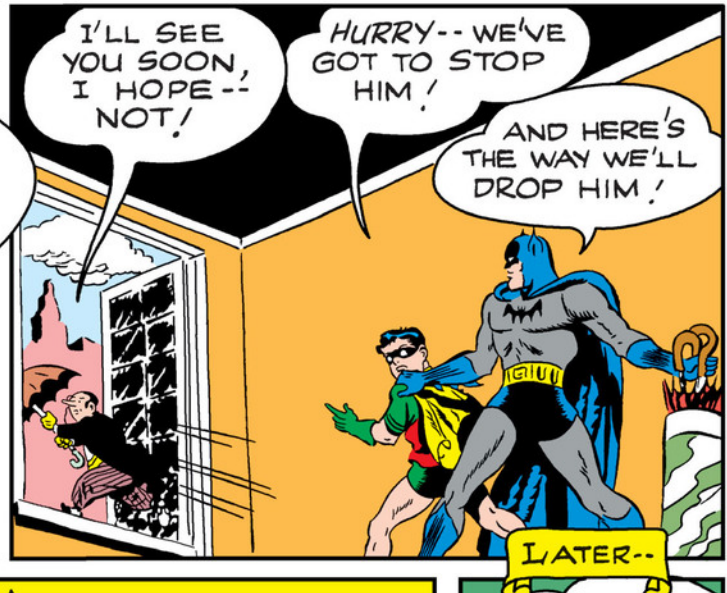
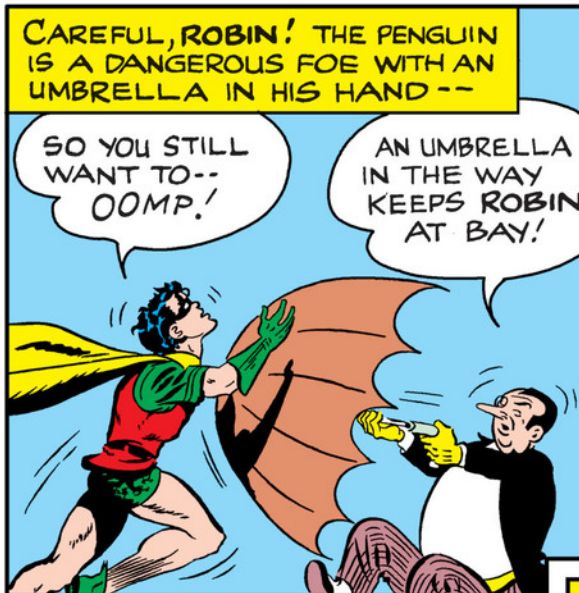
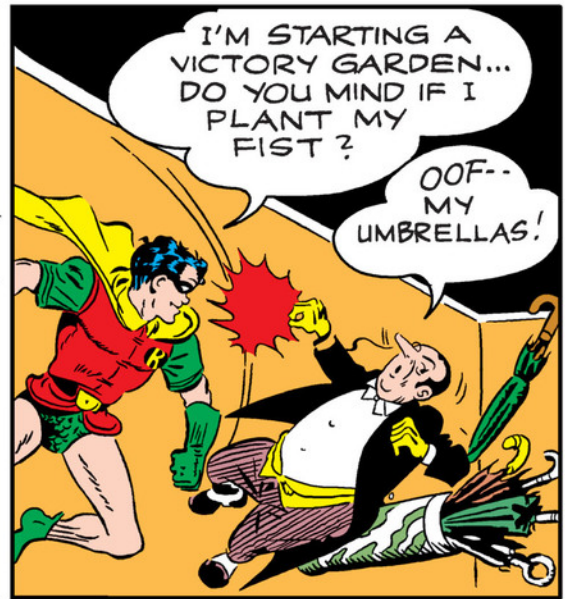
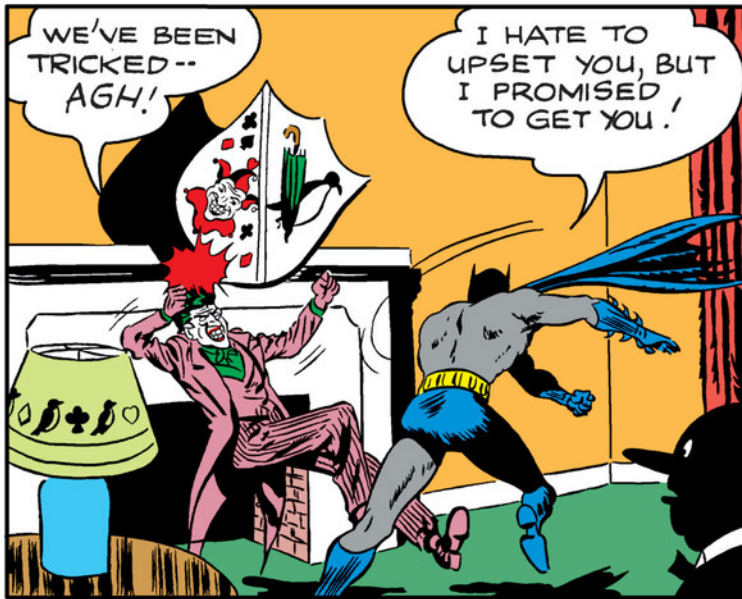
HA-HA--SO THEY TRIED TO
NAB YOU AND WE NABBED
THEM! QUICK--LET'S GET
THEM TO THE HIDEOUT!



THEY REALLY DID
ME A FAVOR! THERE
WAS TOO MUCH GAS IN
THE BALLOONS AND
WITHOUT THEIR HOLD-
ING ON, I'D HAVE
RISEN OUT OF SHOT-
GUN RANGE!

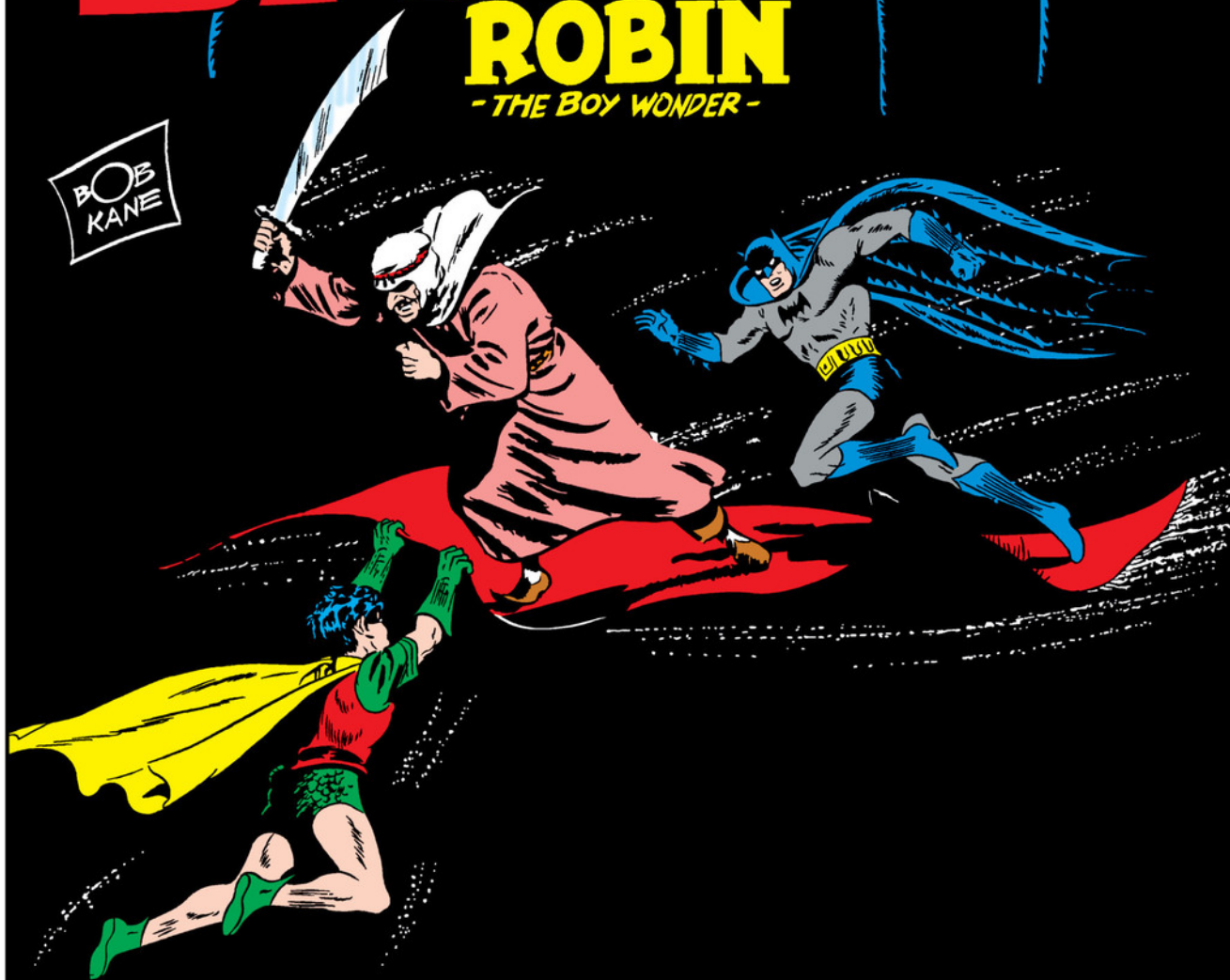






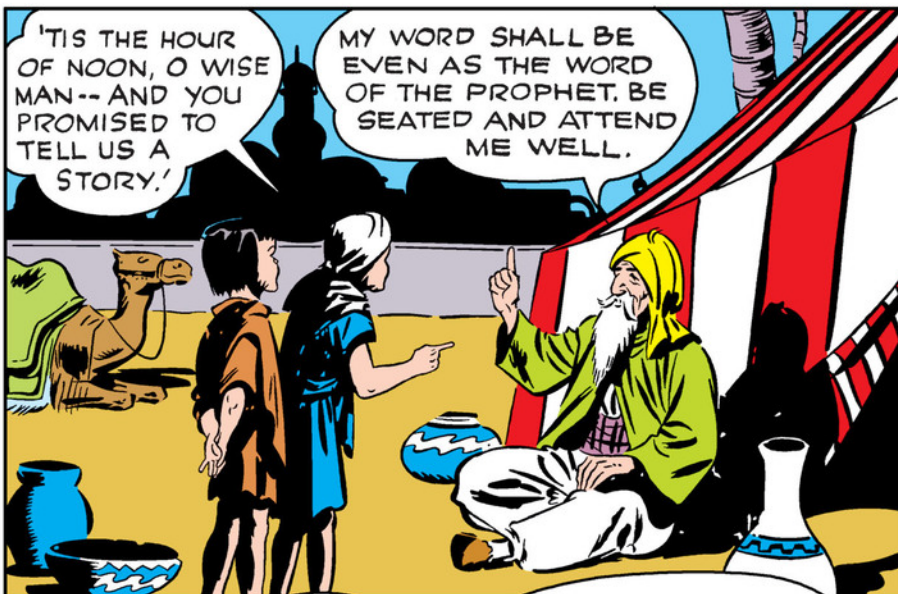
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN
- THE BOY WONDER -



WHATEVER HAS BEEN WRIT IN THE
ETERNAL SANDS OF THE DESERT SHALL BE BLOWN
AWAY EVEN AS CHAFF BEFORE THE WIND. BUT AMONG THE
SONS OF THE PROPHET THIS TALE SHALL BE ALWAYS REMEMBERED--
OF HOW THERE WENT FORTH TO THE WEST ONE OF BLACK HEART AND EVIL WAYS
TO DESTROY HIM ORDAINED TO BE A LEADER AMONG HIS PEOPLE--AND HOW A
MAN AND A BOY KNOWN UNTO ALL AS THE BATMAN AND ROBIN DID
RISE AND SMITE THE UNJUST ONE, RESTORING UNTO THE PEOPLE OF
THE DESERT THEIR JUST AND RIGHTFUL RULER.
"THE SHEIK OF GOTHAM CITY!"

SEAT YOURSELF ON THE MAGIC CARPET, FOR WE ARE GOING ON A FAR JOURNEY TO A FABULOUS LAND... HIGH OVER THE GLITTERING SEA WE SAIL, AND SOON-- WE ARE PASSING THE GLEAMING SPIRES OF ANCIENT BAGDAD. AT LAST, WE HOVER OVER A TINY OASIS IN THE ARABIAN DESERT. DOWN FLUTTERS THE MAGIC CARPET.. WE ARE BEFORE THE TENT OF THE WISE MAN, ALI KA-BADA!



'TIS THE HOUR OF NOON, O WISE MAN-- AND YOU PROMISED TO TELL US A STORY!

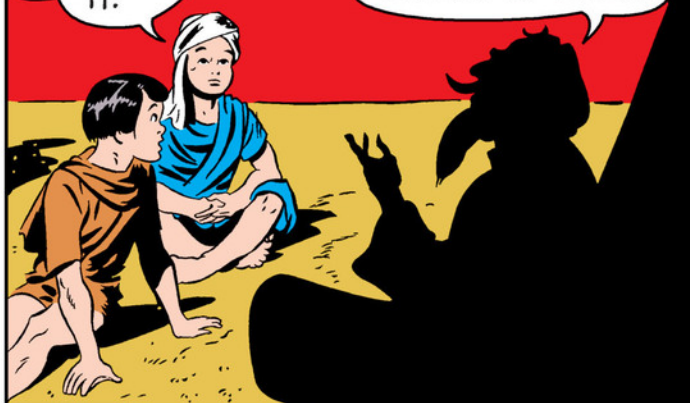
MY WORD SHALL BE EVEN AS THE WORD OF THE PROPHET. BE SEATED AND ATTEND ME WELL.

THIS IS NOT, AS HAS BEEN MY CUSTOM, A TALE OF LONG AGO, BUT ONE OF ONLY YESTERDAY. IT CONCERNS ITSELF WITH SIDI BEN HASSEN, THE SHEIK OF OUR TRIBE, AND HOW HE CAME UNTO HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE.



OFTEN DID I HEAR MY FATHER SPEAK OF SUCH A TALE, BUT NEVER DID I LEARN IT.

IT TAKES US ACROSS THE GREAT SEA TO A VAST CITY WHERE THE SYMBOL OF THE FLYING BAT, THE EYES OF THE NIGHT, KEEPS CONSTANT VIGIL AGAINST THE DEPRE-DATIONS OF EVIL...



"NOT MANY MOONS AGO, A TRIBESMAN, RETURNING FROM THE DISTANT SEA-COAST, SPURRED HIS CAMEL ACROSS THE BURNING DESERT TOWARD OUR OASIS AND BURST INTO THE TENT OF THE FORMER SHEIK. OMAR EL KOBRA, HE OF THE EVIL NAME..."



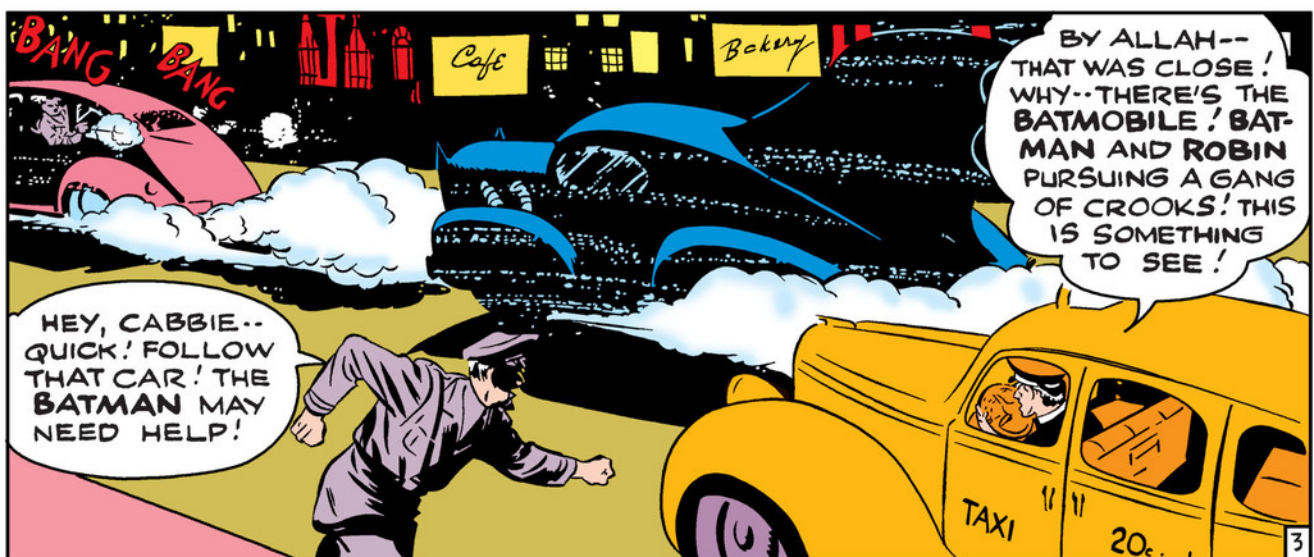
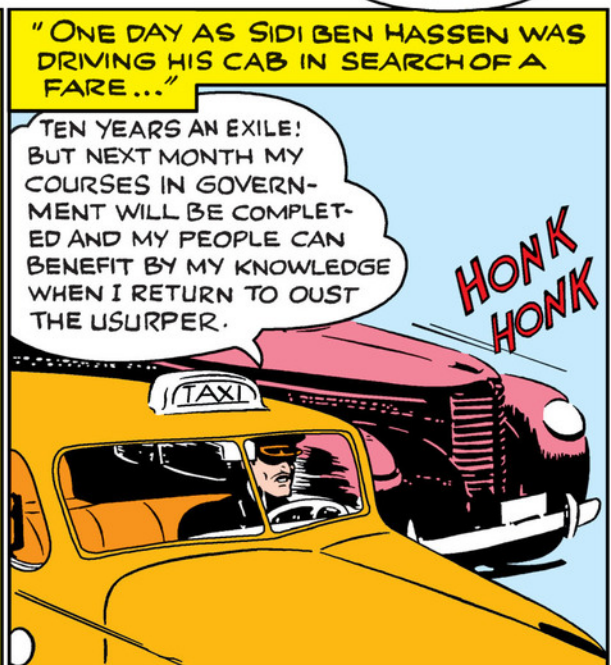
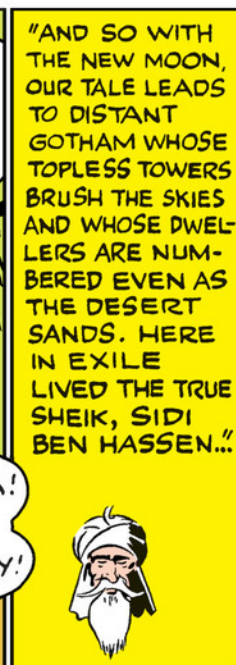
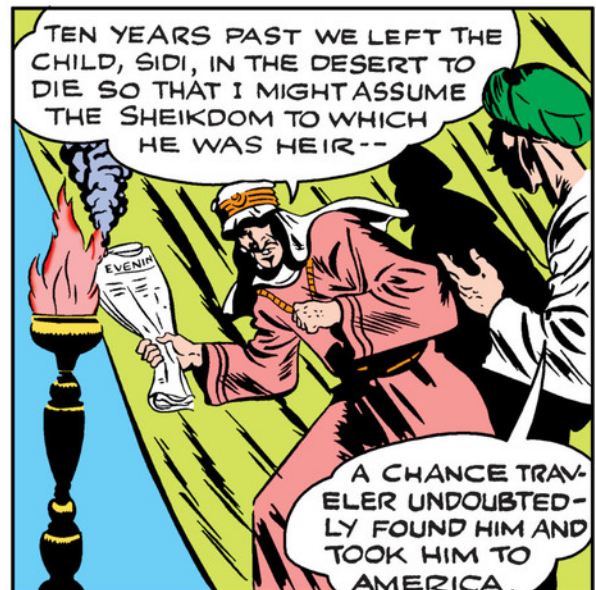
BY THE BEARD OF THE PROPHET, WHAT MEANS THIS UN-SEEMLY HASTE?

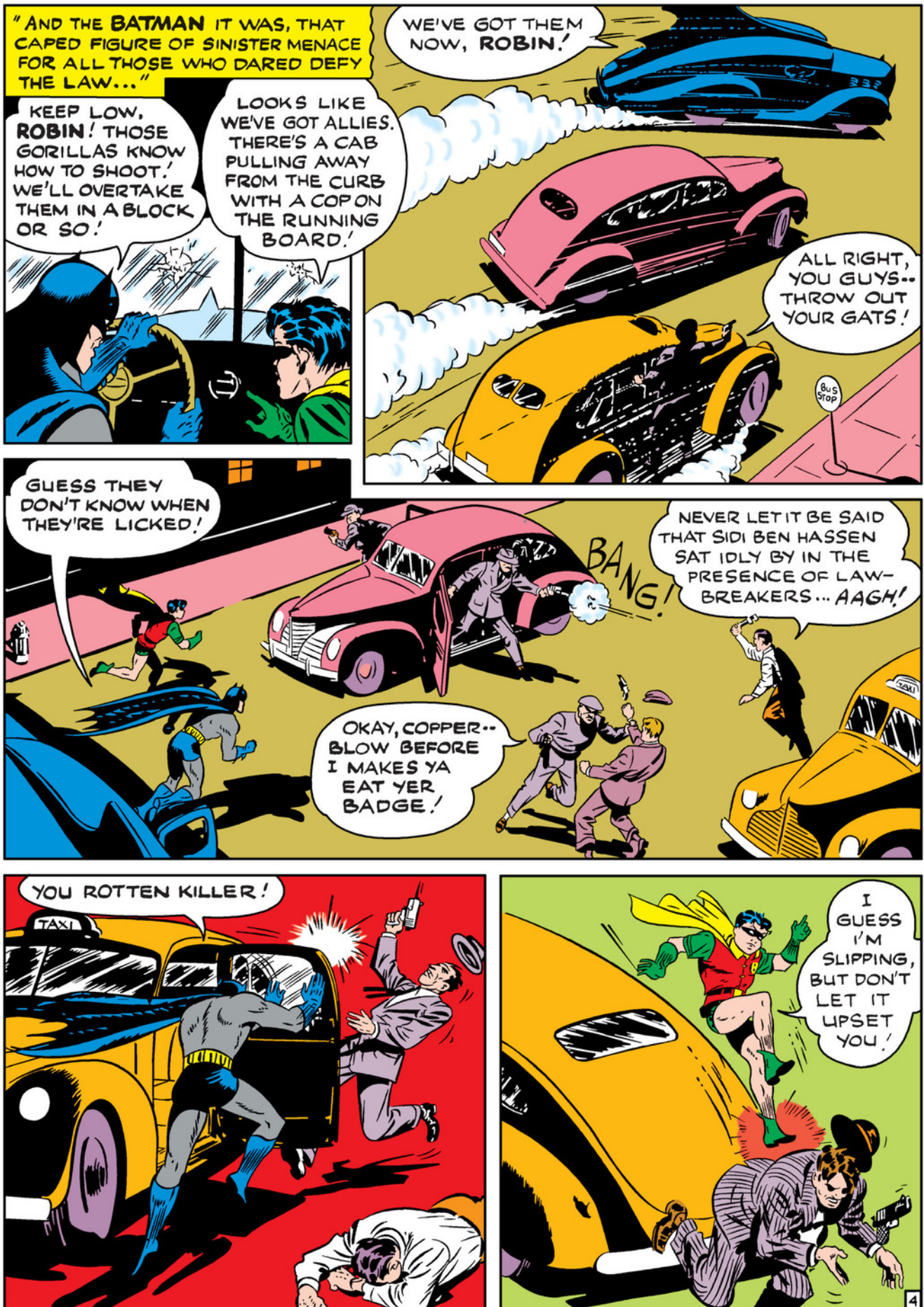
I BRING NEWS-- TERRIBLE NEWS!

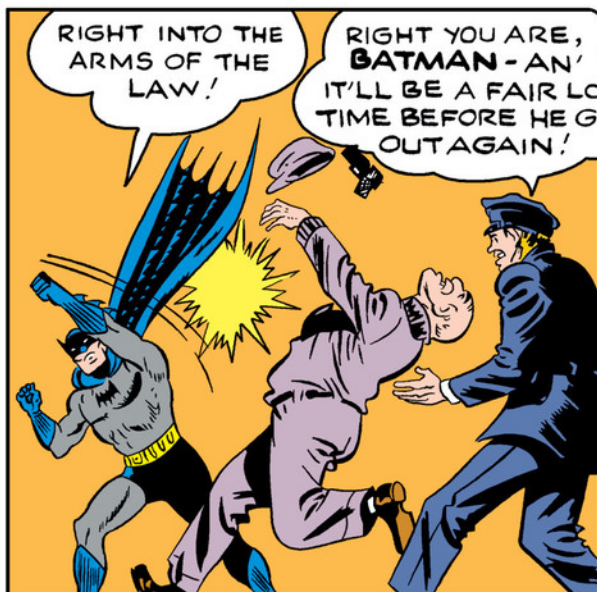
WHILE PURCHASING SUPPLIES, I CAME UPON THIS AMERICAN NEWSPAPER IN THE TOWN. I OBTAINED IT FROM A FOREIGN SOLDIER. 'T WAS FORTUN-ATE THAT I KNOW ENGLISH. READ

WELL THE ITEM I HAVE MARKED IN PENCIL.



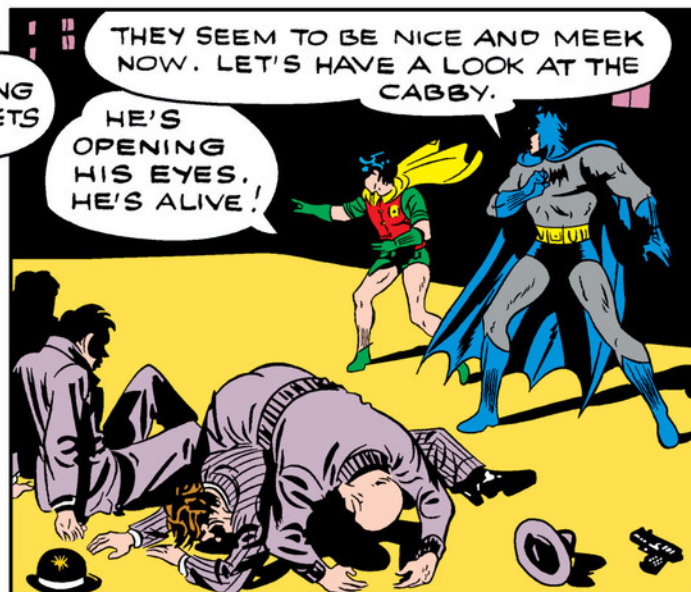






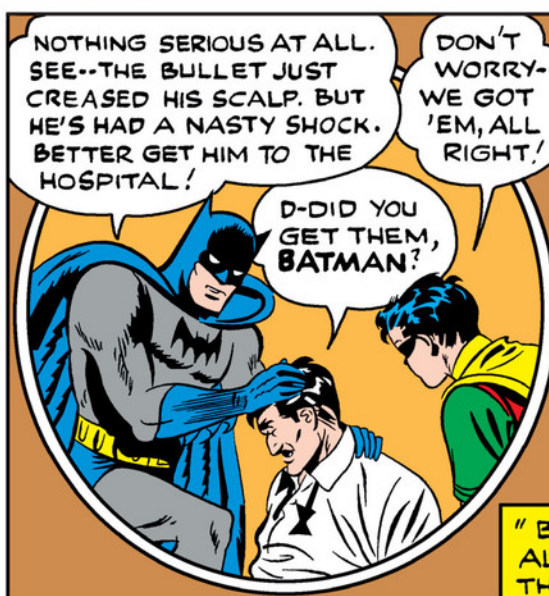
RIGHT INTO THE ARMS OF THE LAW!

RIGHT YOU ARE, **BATMAN** - AN' IT'LL BE A FAIR LONG TIME BEFORE HE GETS OUT AGAIN!



THEY SEEM TO BE NICE AND MEEK NOW. LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE CABBY.

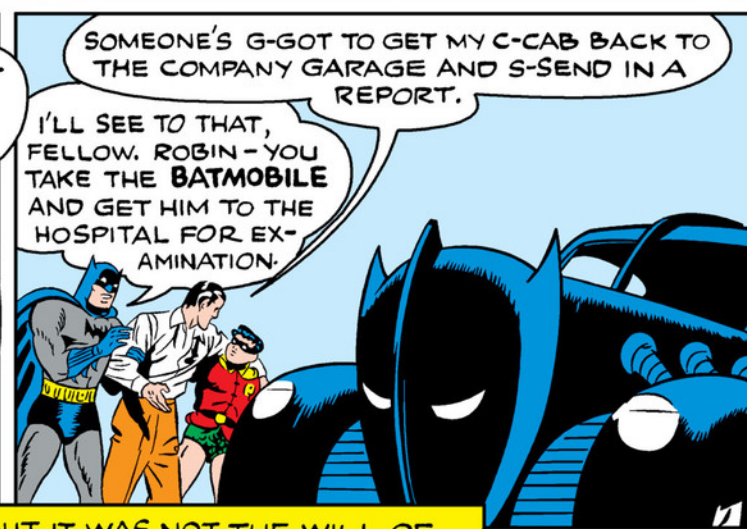
HE'S OPENING HIS EYES. HE'S ALIVE!



NOTHING SERIOUS AT ALL. SEE--THE BULLET JUST CREASED HIS SCALP. BUT HE'S HAD A NASTY SHOCK. BETTER GET HIM TO THE HOSPITAL!

DON'T WORRY-- WE GOT 'EM, ALL RIGHT!

D-DID YOU GET THEM, **BATMAN**?



SOMEONE'S G-GOT TO GET MY C-CAB BACK TO THE COMPANY GARAGE AND S-SEND IN A REPORT.

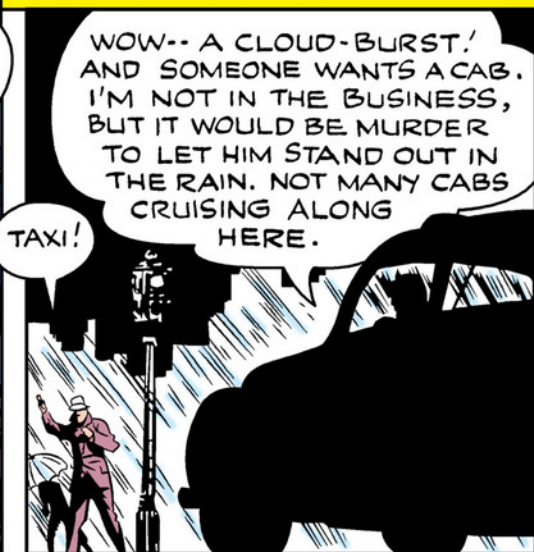
I'LL SEE TO THAT, FELLOW. ROBIN - YOU TAKE THE **BATMOBILE** AND GET HIM TO THE HOSPITAL FOR EX-AMINATION.

" BUT IT WAS NOT THE WILL OF ALLAH THAT **BATMAN** RETURN THE CAB OF SIDI BEN HASSEN THAT AFTERNOON. ON THE WAY TO THE GARAGE, THE HEAVENS RELEASED A DOWNPOUR AND... "



PRETTY BRAVE FELLOW! WELL, I GUESS YOU HAVE THE SITUATION WELL IN HAND, OFFICER. I'LL GET THIS CAB BACK WHERE IT BELONGS.

A NEAT HAUL, **BATMAN**! WE'VE BEEN AFTER THIS GANG FOR WEEKS.

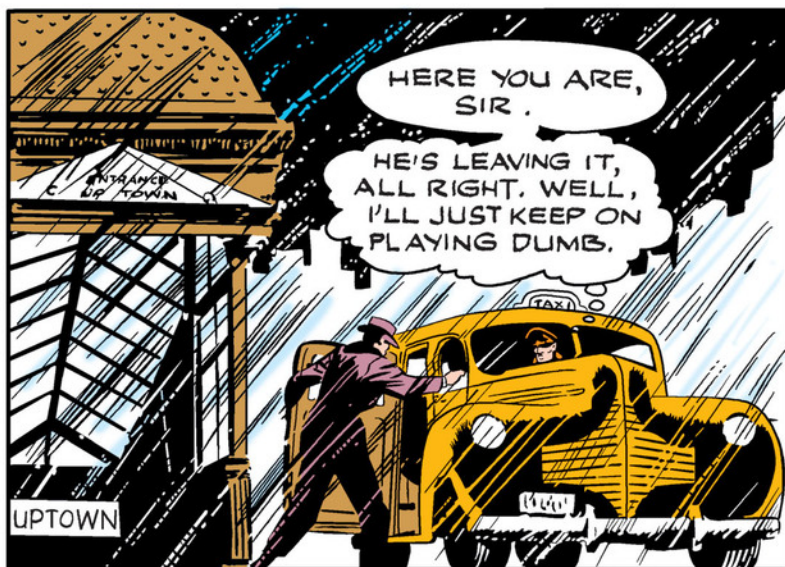
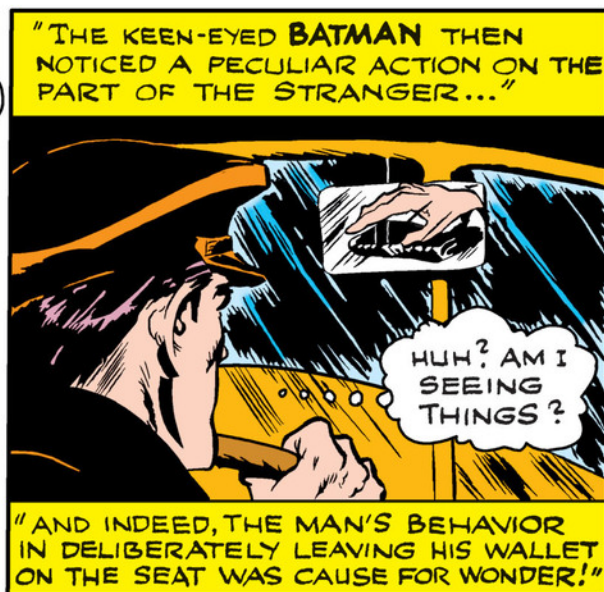
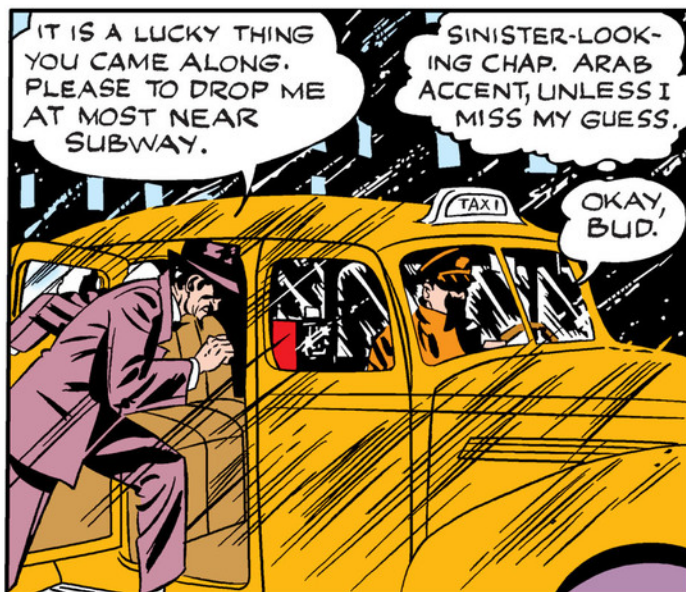


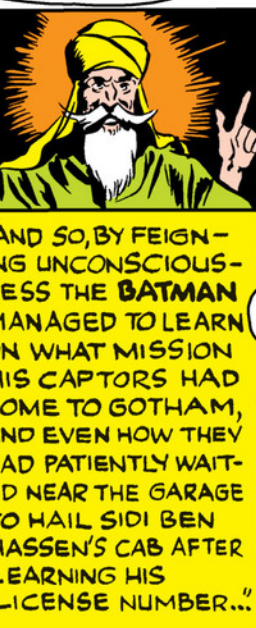
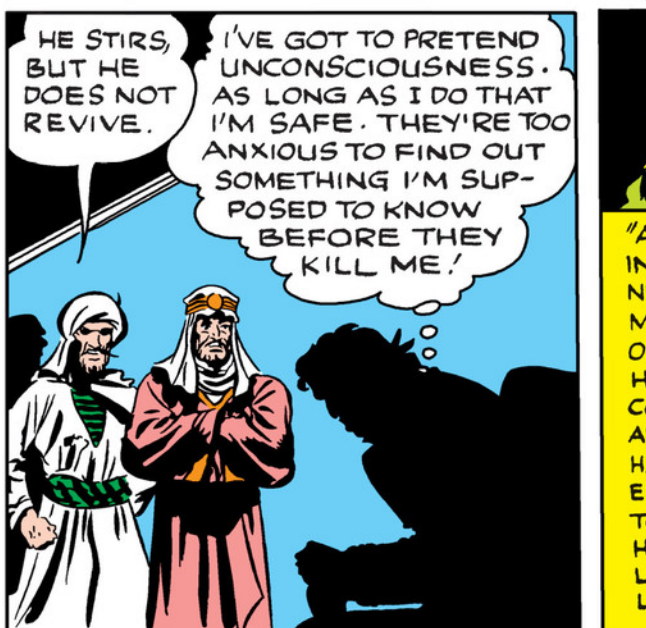
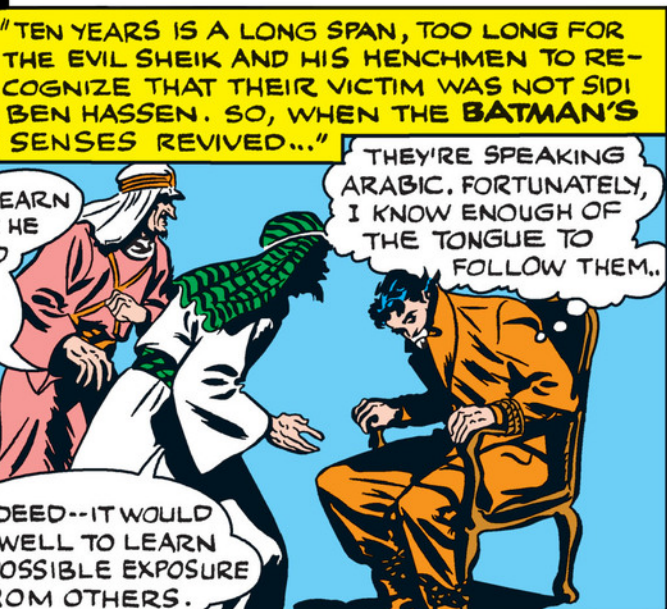
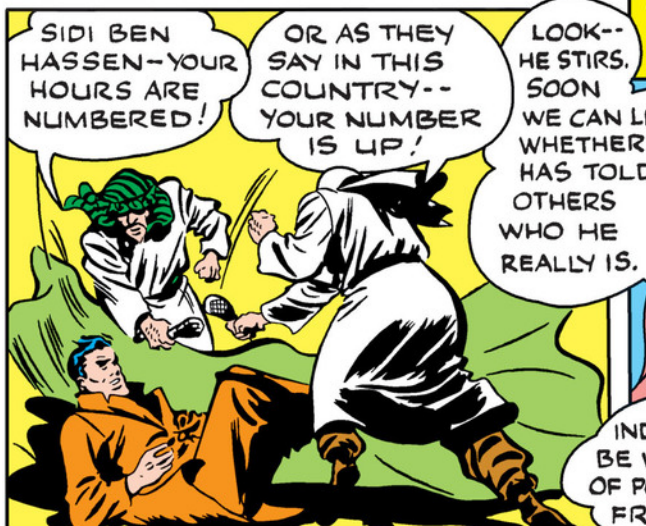
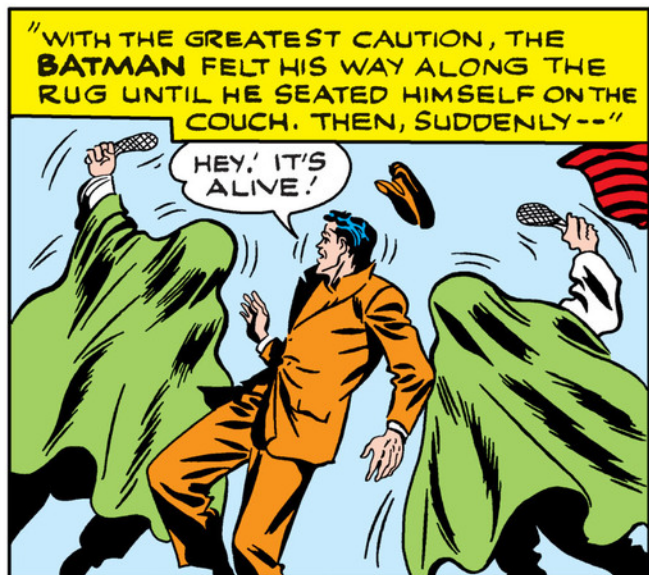
WOW-- A CLOUD-BURST! AND SOMEONE WANTS A CAB. I'M NOT IN THE BUSINESS, BUT IT WOULD BE MURDER TO LET HIM STAND OUT IN THE RAIN. NOT MANY CABS CRUISING ALONG HERE.

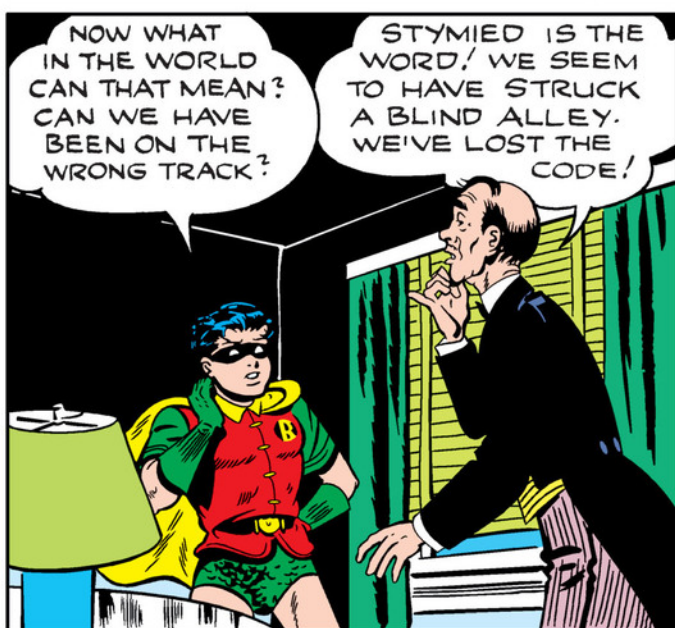
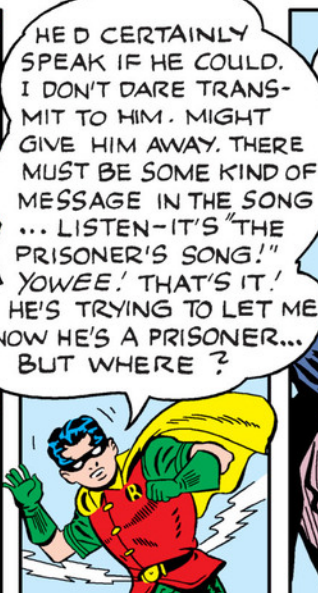
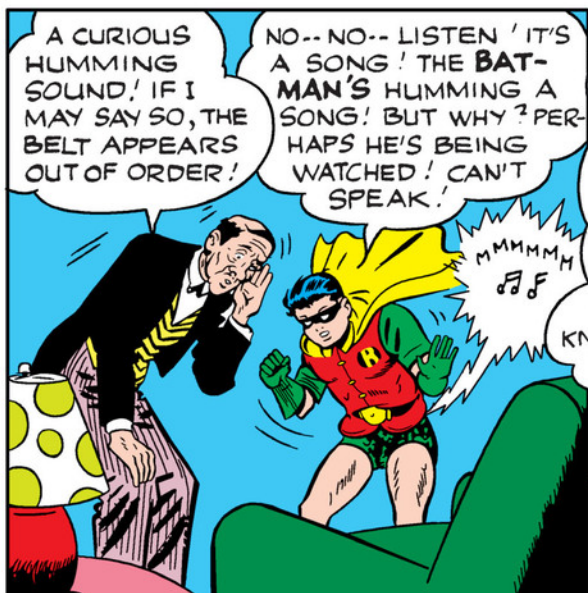
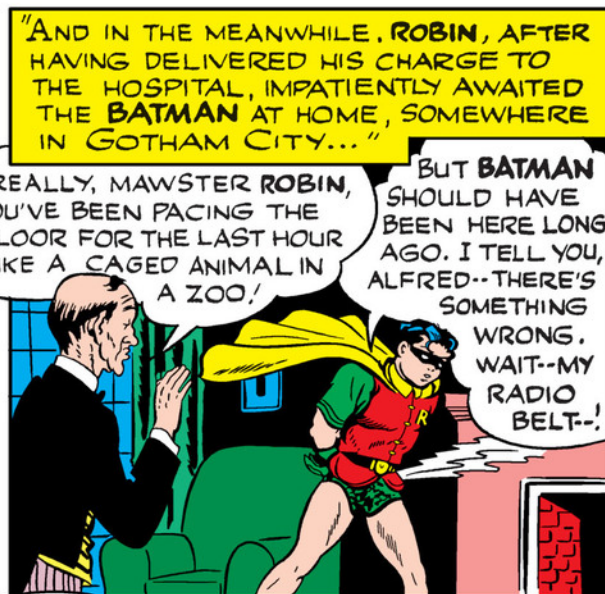
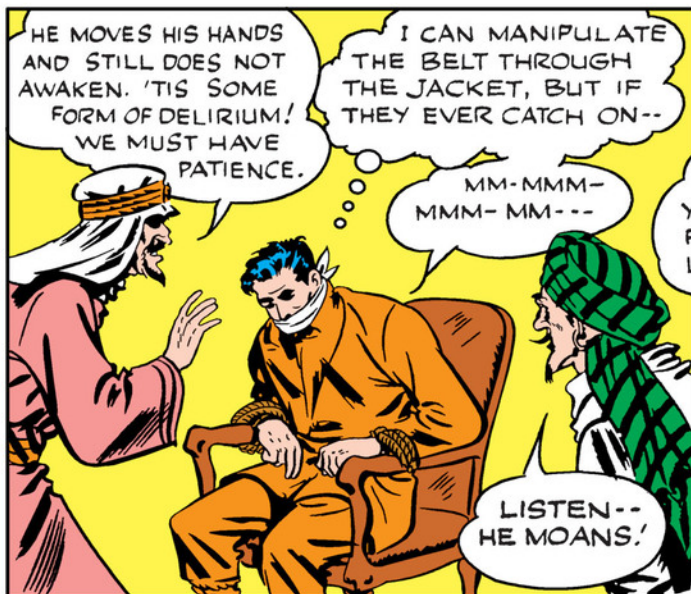
TAXI!

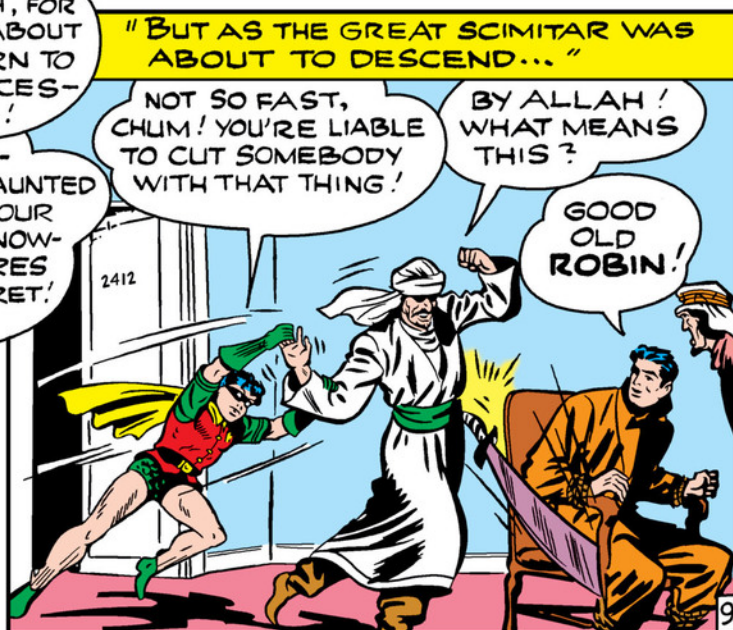
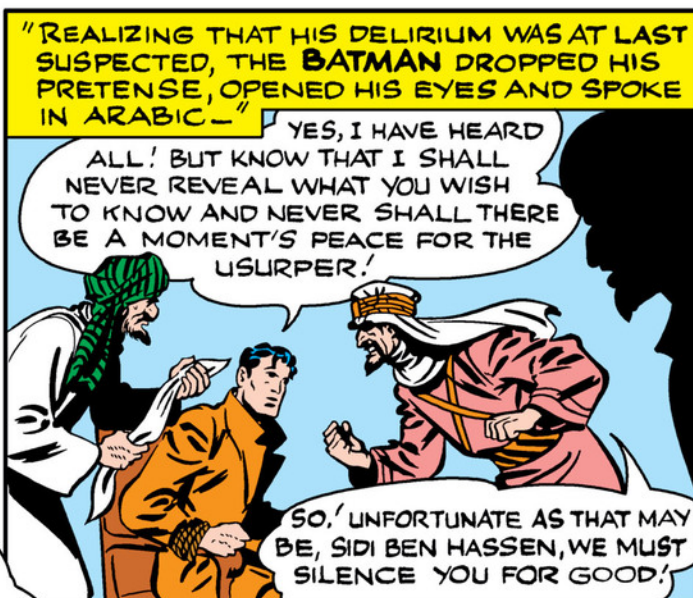
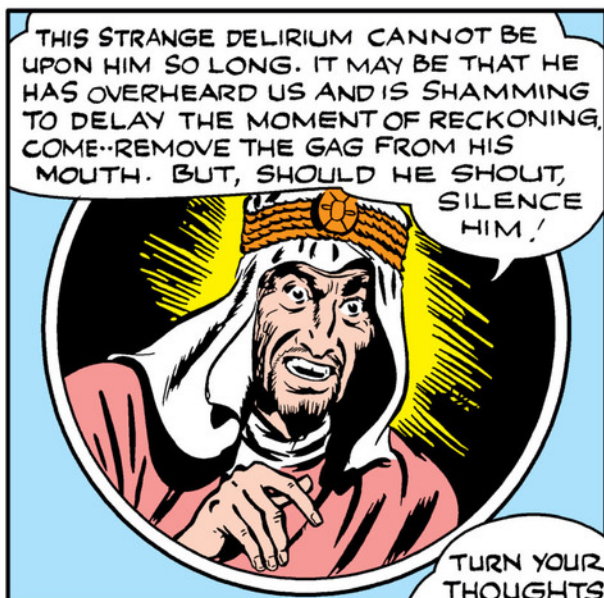
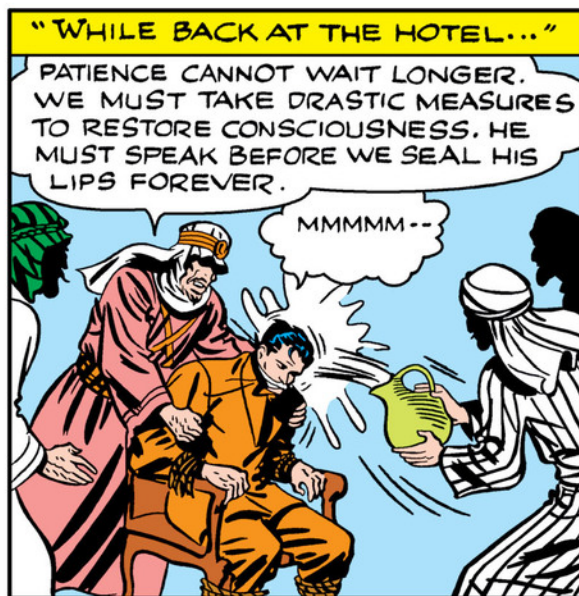
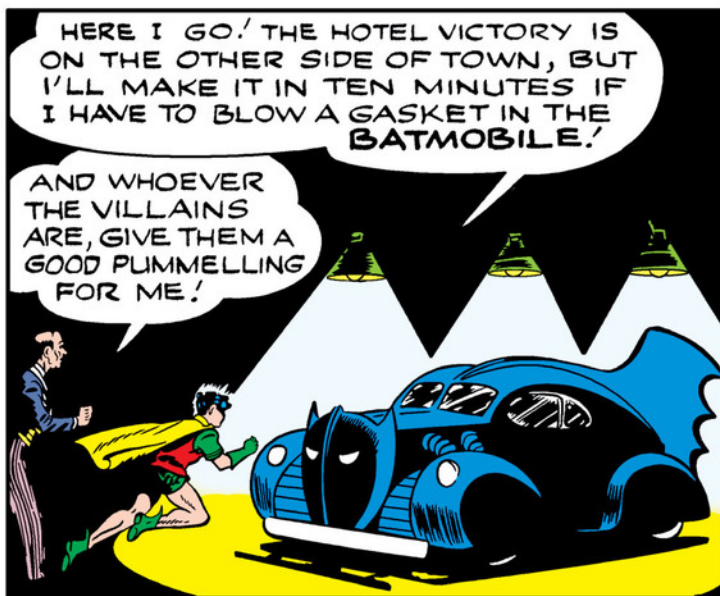


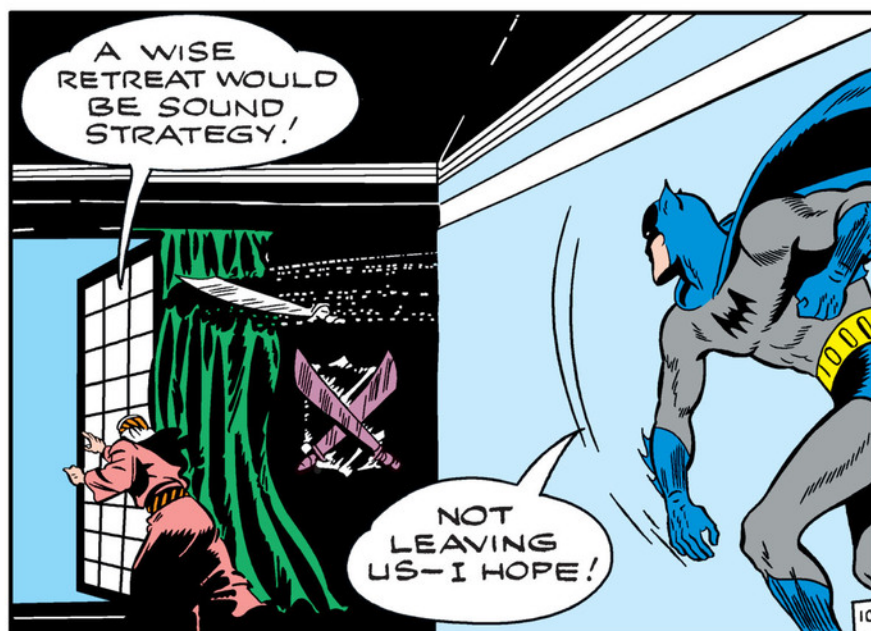
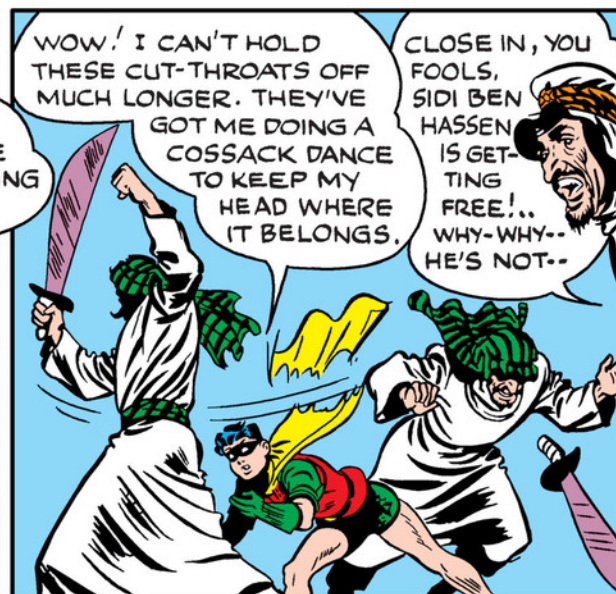
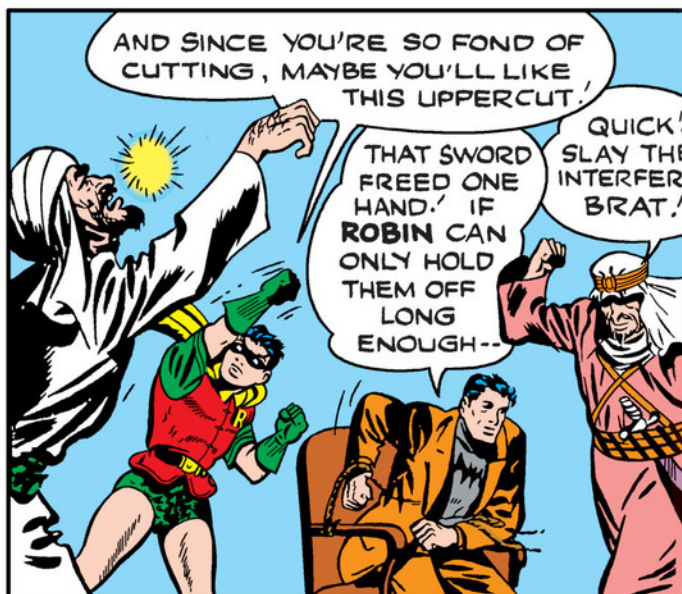
STILL-- CAN'T BE A HACK DRIVER AND THE **BATMAN** AT THE SAME TIME. SO I'LL PUT ON THIS CABBY'S CAP AND COAT... THE FARE WILL NEVER KNOW THE DIFFERENCE!

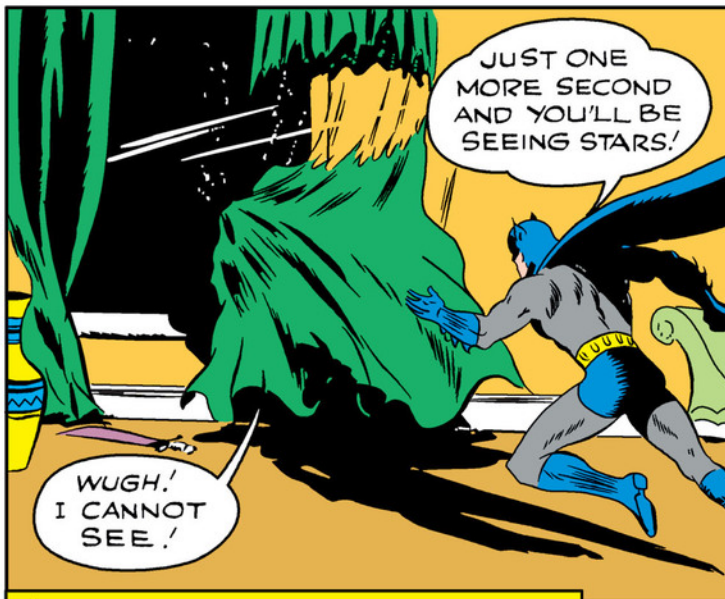




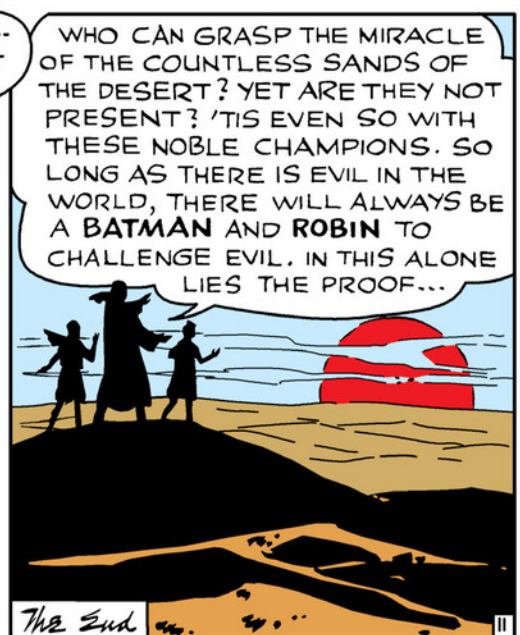
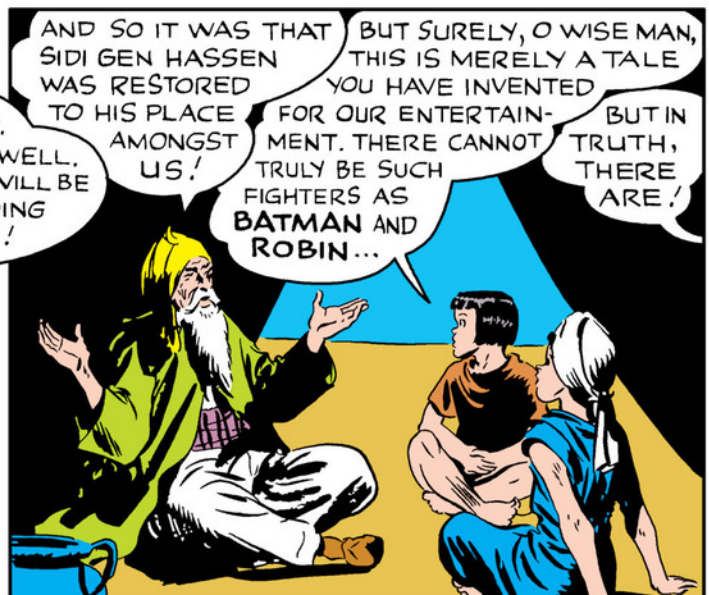








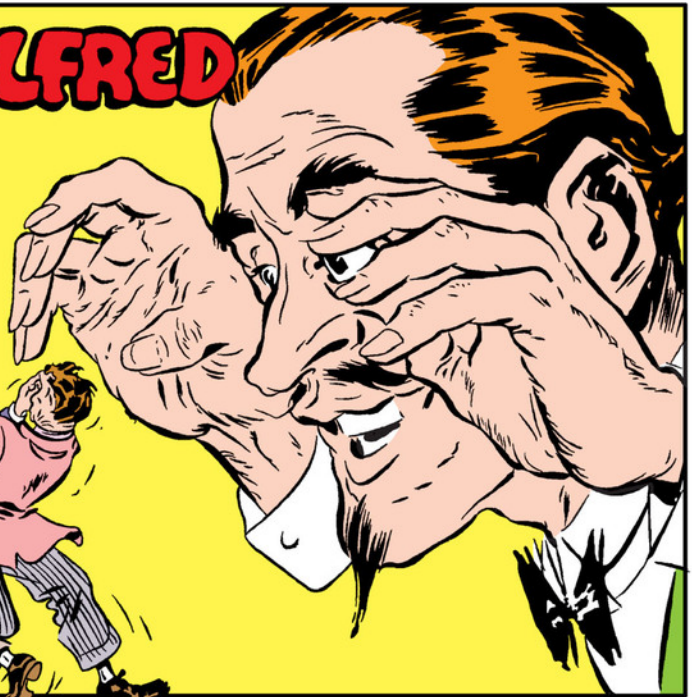
"AND WITH THE CRUSHING OF THE EVIL USURPER, THE CRUSADING CHAMPIONS MADE HASTE TO CONVEY THE NEWS TO SIDI BEN HASSEN AS HE LAY IN HIS HOSPITAL BED..."



The Adventures of ALFRED

HALF BUTLER, HALF BLOODHOUND--THAT'S ALFRED, MAJORDOMO TO BRUCE WAYNE AND DICK GRAYSON! AND JUST TO PROVE HOW DEEPLY HIS SLEUTHING INSTINCTS ARE ROOTED IN HIS SUBCONSCIOUS MIND, WE GIVE YOU THIS THRILLING STORY OF...

"The MESMERIZED MANHUNTER!"



HAVING SOUGHT VAINLY FOR A CRIME TO SOLVE, ALFRED DECIDES TO END HIS DAY OFF AT A THEATER...

AH, WELL--MIGHT AS WELL PRACTICE DETECTING THE TRICKS OF THIS CHARLATAN, MAZZO! IT'LL EXERCISE MY BRAIN AND REST MY FEET!

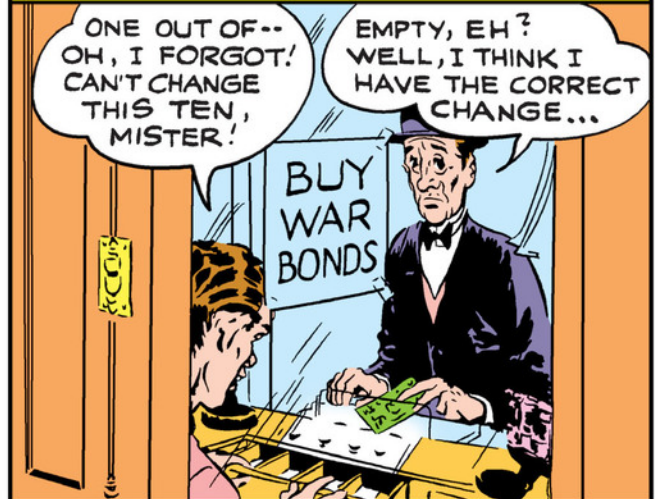
HOW MANY?



AUTOMATICALLY, THE CASHIER OPENS THE MONEY-DRAWER...

ONE OUT OF-- OH, I FORGOT! CAN'T CHANGE THIS TEN, MISTER!

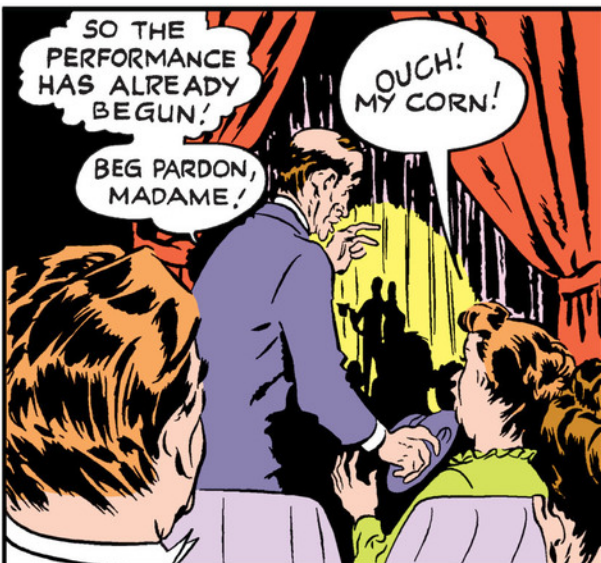
EMPTY, EH? WELL, I THINK I HAVE THE CORRECT CHANGE...



SO THE PERFORMANCE HAS ALREADY BEGUN!

BEG PARDON, MADAME!

OUCH! MY CORN!



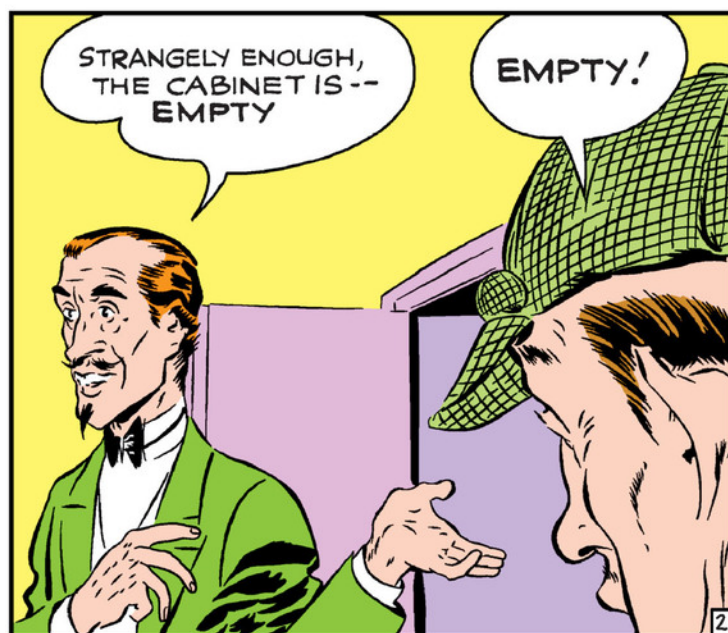
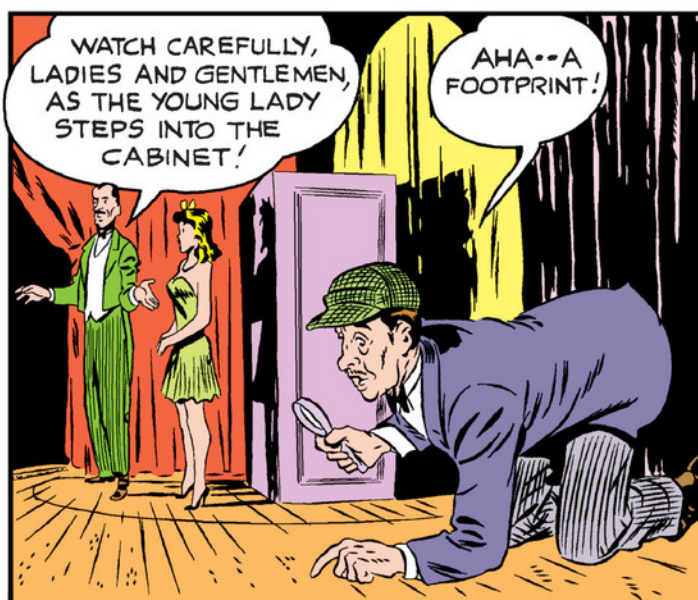
NEVER ONE TO SHIRK RESPONSIBILITY, OUR HERO RESPONDS TO AN URGENT APPEAL!

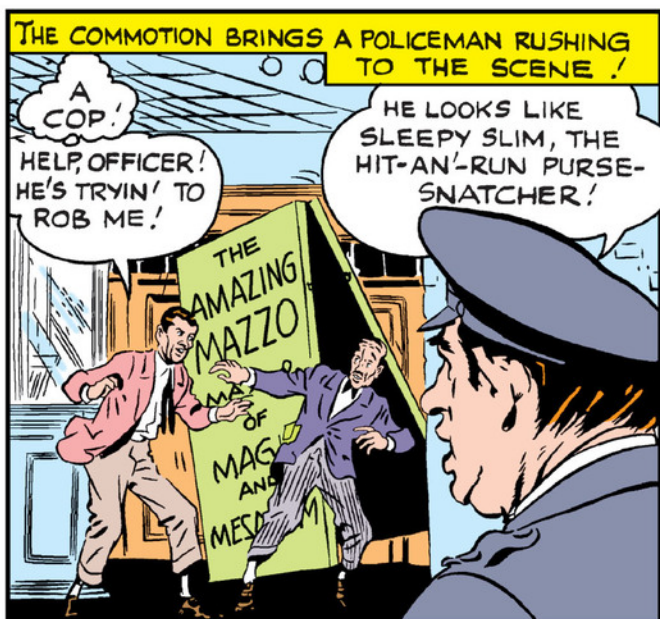
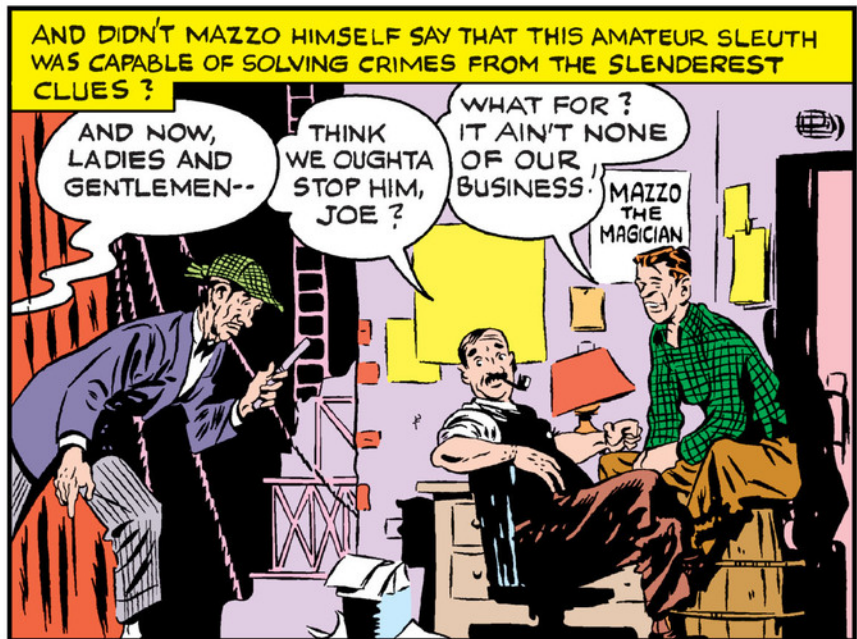
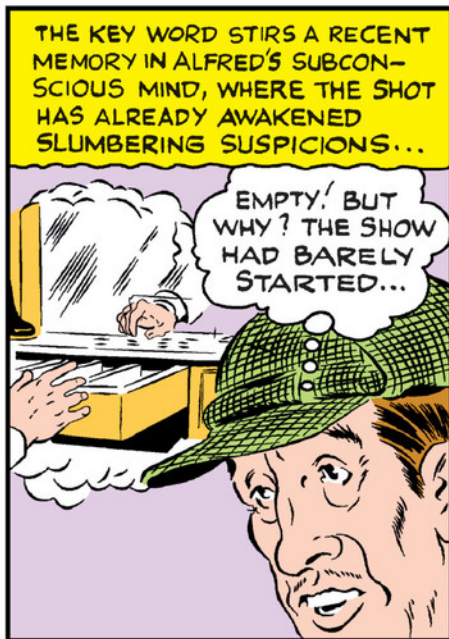
WILL SOME INTELLIGENT, WIDE-AWAKE GENTLEMAN KINDLY STEP TO THE STAGE TO ASSIST ME?

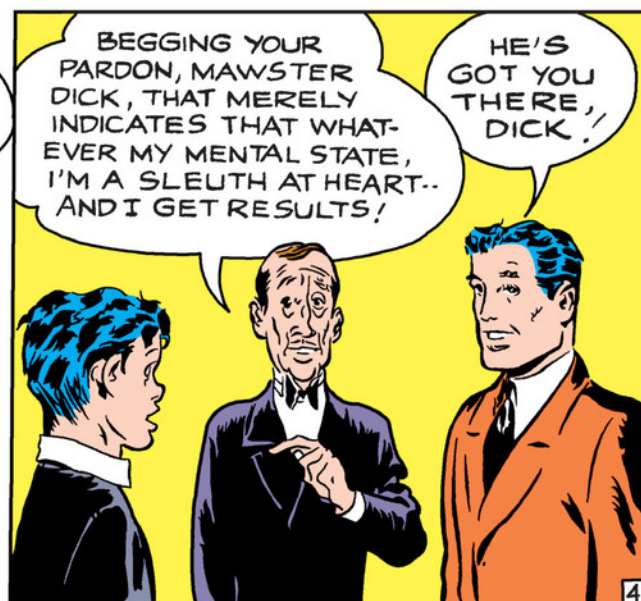
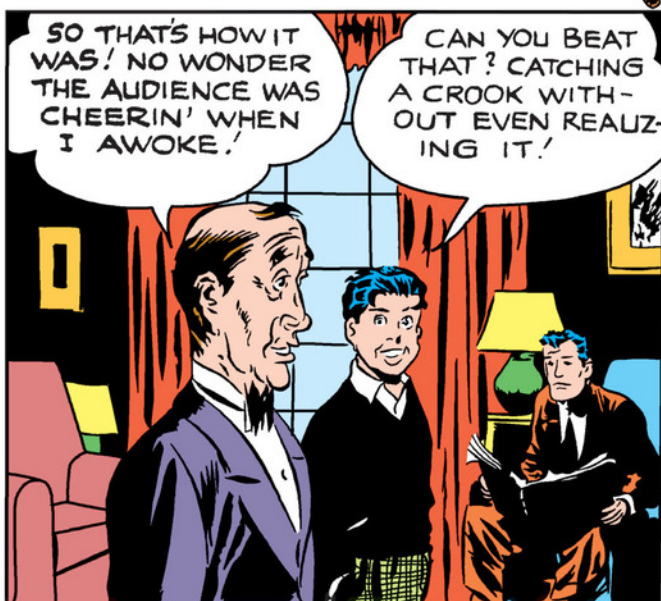
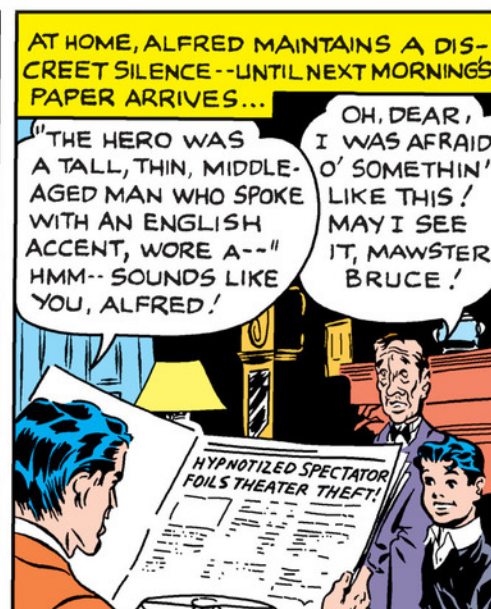
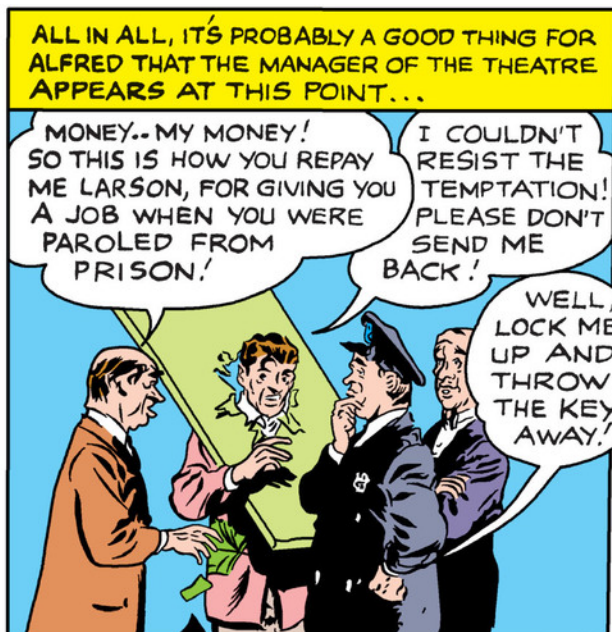
I'M YOUR MAN, SIR!

WHAT! AGAIN?





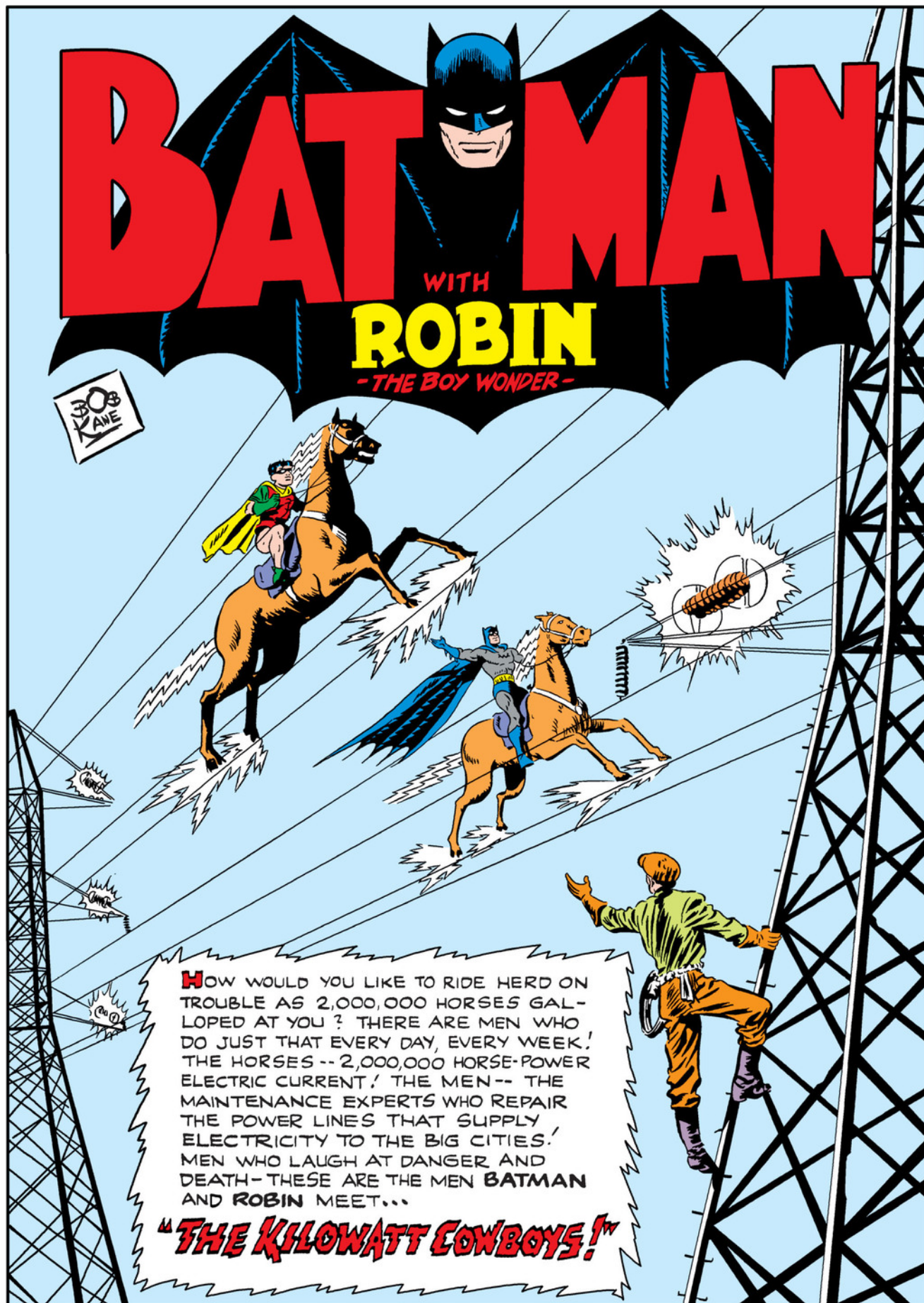




BATMAN

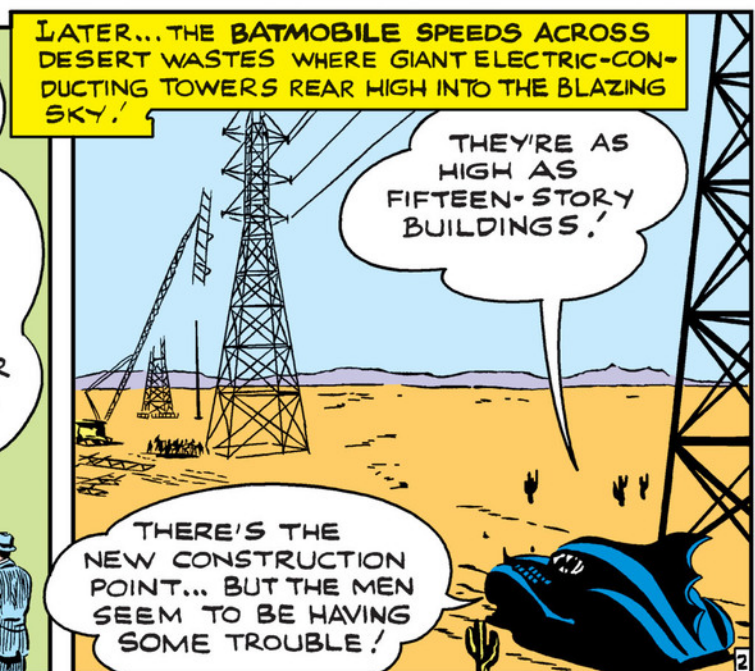
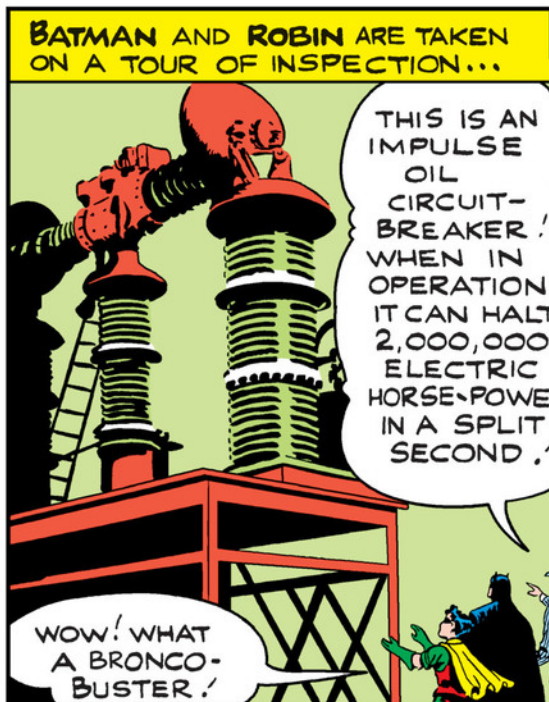
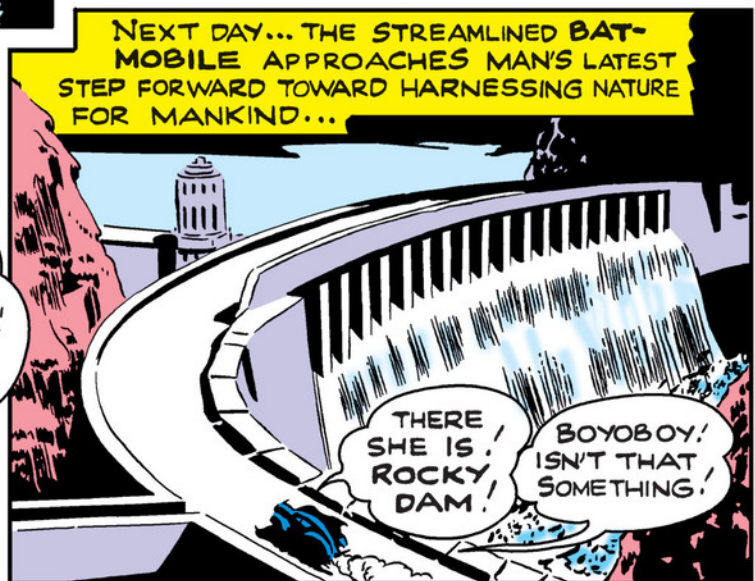
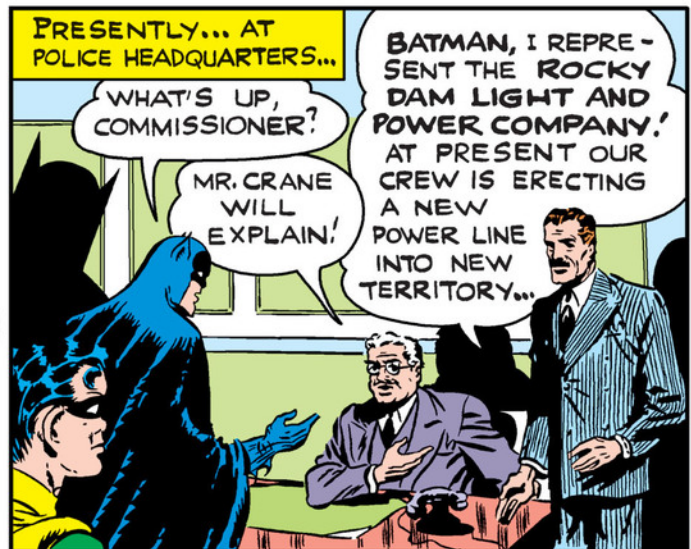
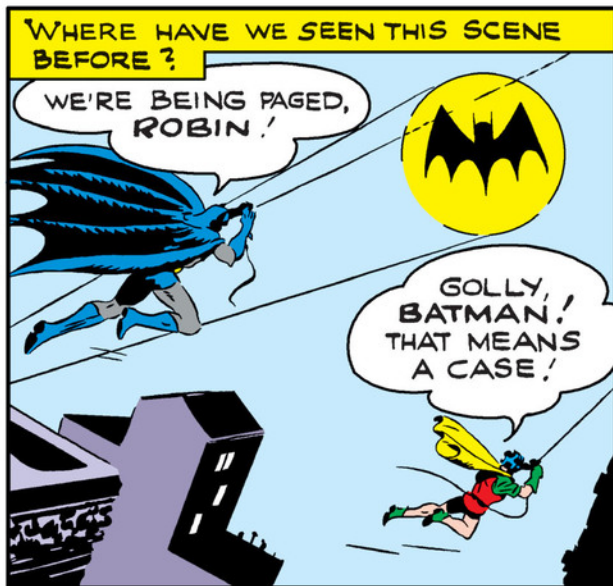
WITH
ROBIN

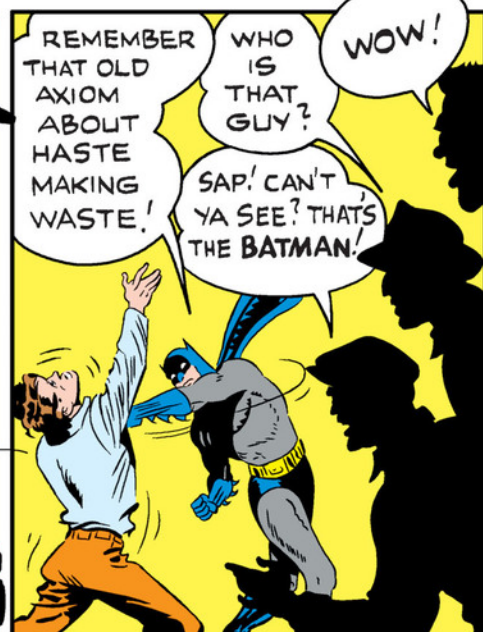
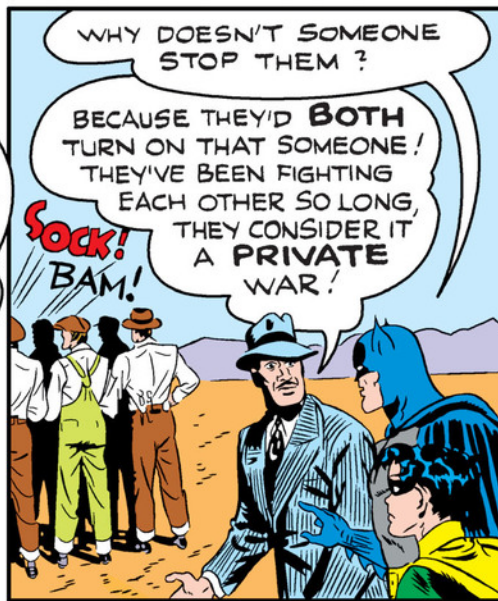
-THE BOY WONDER-

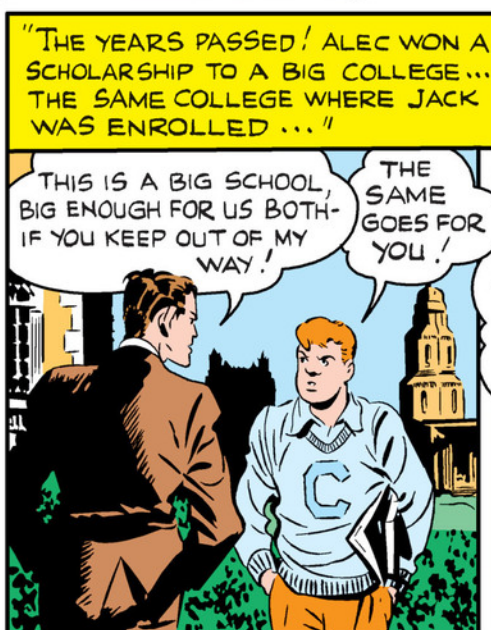
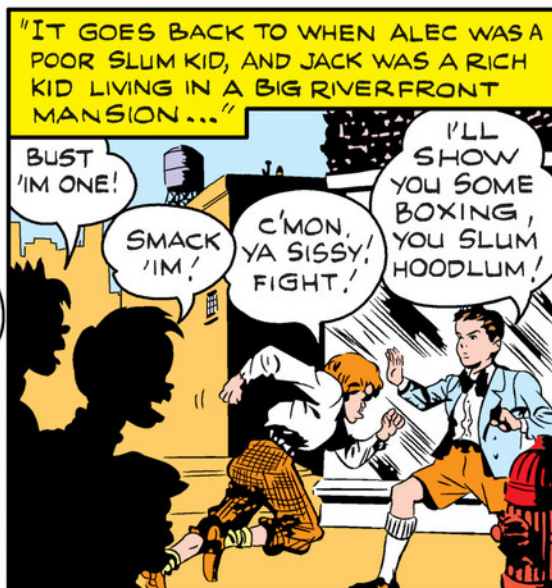
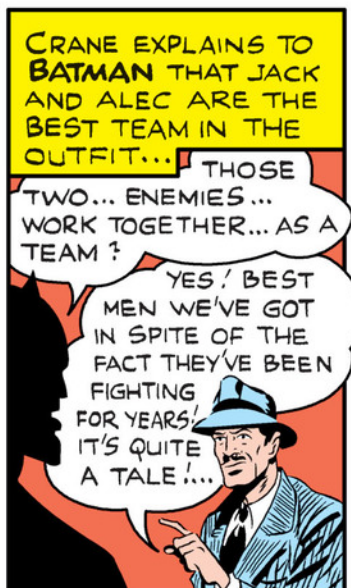
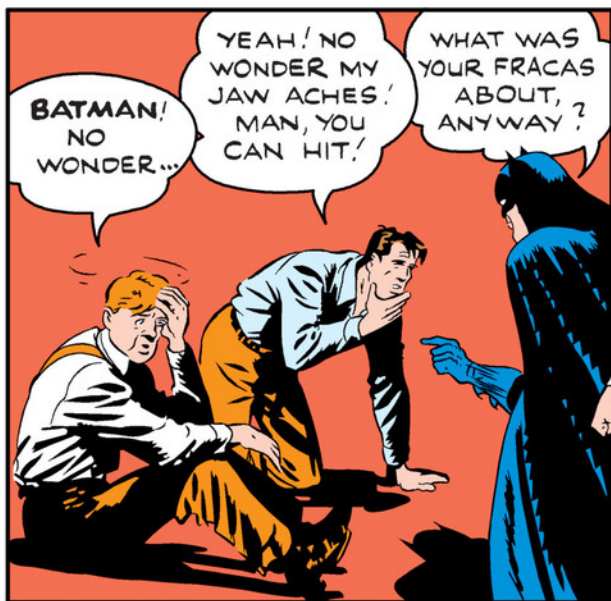


HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO RIDE HERD ON TROUBLE AS 2,000,000 HORSES GALLOPED AT YOU? THERE ARE MEN WHO DO JUST THAT EVERY DAY, EVERY WEEK! THE HORSES -- 2,000,000 HORSE-POWER ELECTRIC CURRENT! THE MEN -- THE MAINTENANCE EXPERTS WHO REPAIR THE POWER LINES THAT SUPPLY ELECTRICITY TO THE BIG CITIES! MEN WHO LAUGH AT DANGER AND DEATH-- THESE ARE THE MEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** MEET...

"THE KILOWATT COWBOYS!"







"JACK CARRIED THE BALL... ALEC CLEARED THE FIELD FOR HIM ! BUT JACK, THE STAR QUARTERBACK, BECAME THE CELEBRATED HERO AND ALEC AN UNSUNG ONE ! SO THEY FOUGHT OVER THAT."

ALL-AMERICAN QUARTERBACK ! WHERE WOULD YOU BE WITHOUT ME ? ... OOF !

CARRYING THE BALL STRAIGHT OVER THE GOAL LINE ! ... UGH !

10

" THE YEARS PASSED ! ALEC BECAME A LINE-MAN... AND THEN ONE DAY, JACK BECAME PART OF THE CREW."

YES, IT'S ME ! MY FOLKS LOST ALL THEIR MONEY, SO NOW I'M WORKING FOR A LIVING ! DO YOU MIND ?

I DON'T MIND, SO LONG AS YOU KEEP OUT OF MY WAY ... BIG SHOT !

"THEN ONE DAY IT HAPPENED ! ALEC FELL OFF A TOWER ... BROKE SOME RIBS ! COULDN'T CLIMB A TOWER AFTER THAT- LOST HIS NERVE ON HEIGHTS !"

HELP ! HELP ME ! I'M GOING TO FALL

HOLD ON, ALEC ! I'M COMING !

"SO ALEC BECAME A GROUND GRUNT (THAT'S SLANG FOR LINEMAN'S ASSISTANT)... AND GUESS WHO WAS THE ? " LINEMAN ..."

FROM NOW ON, YOU'RE JACK'S GRUNT MAN, ' AND DO A GOOD JOB !

NEVER MIND ME ! JUST WATCH OUT YOU DON'T TAKE A TUMBLE !

HERE... BUTTER-FINGERS !

THANKS... KNUCKLE-HEAD !

-- SO THEY'RE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN..JUST LIKE IN FOOTBALL

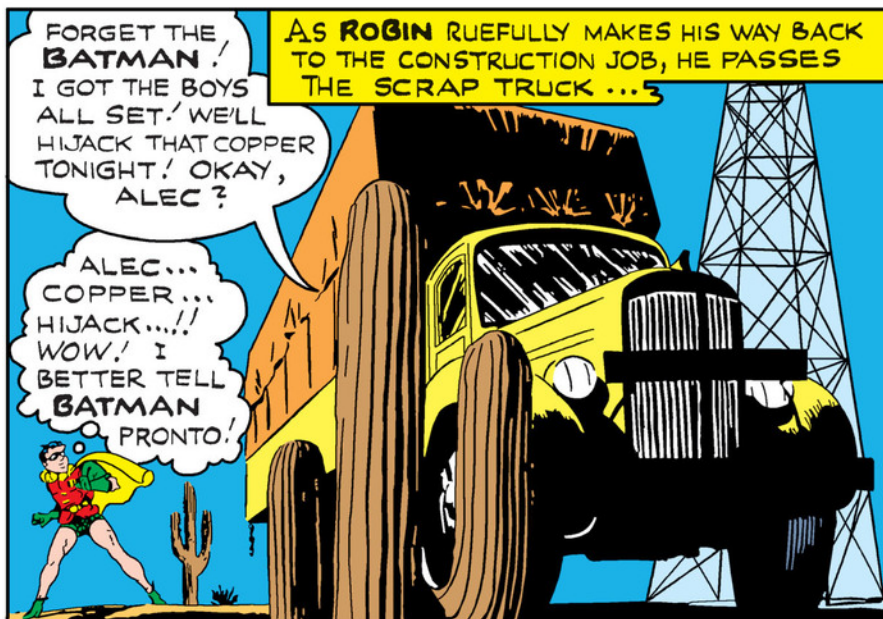
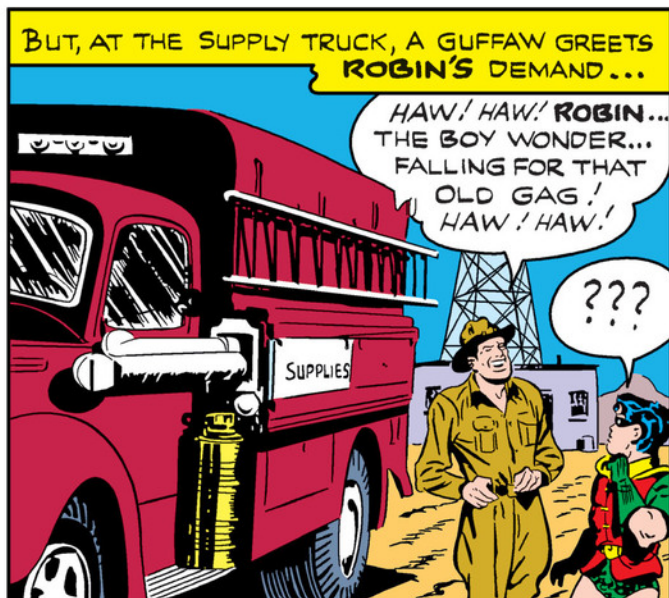
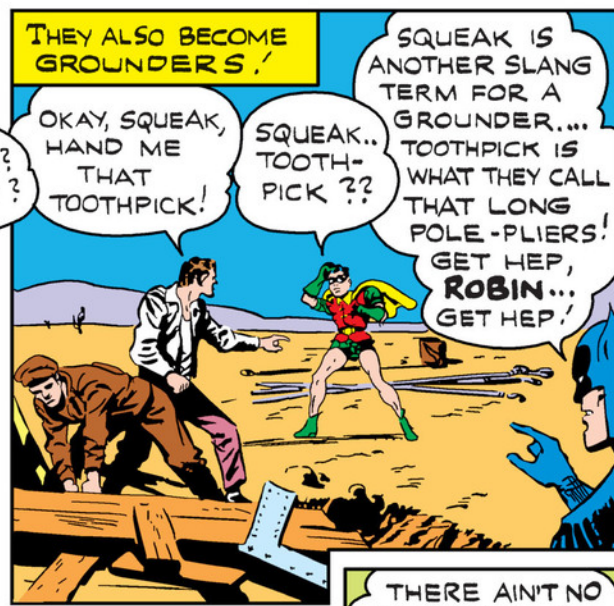
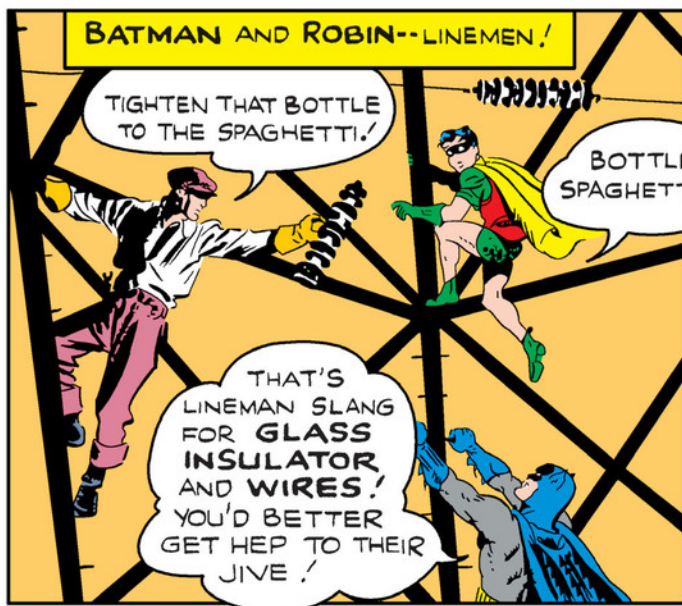
AND STILL ARGUING !

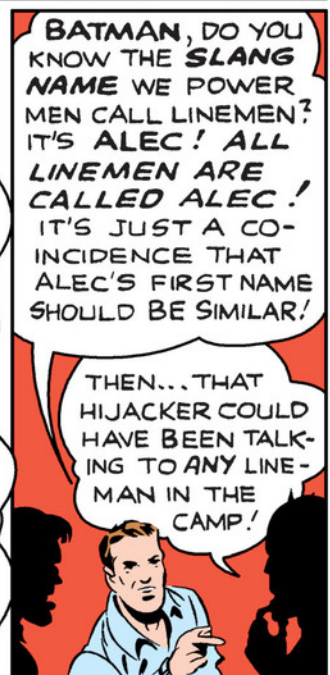
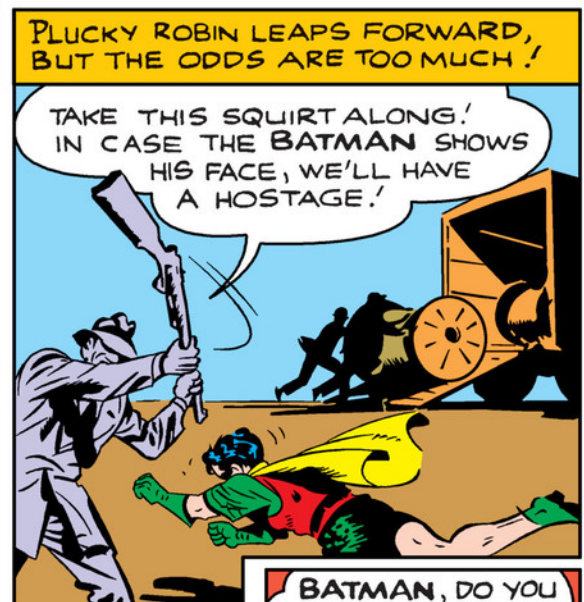
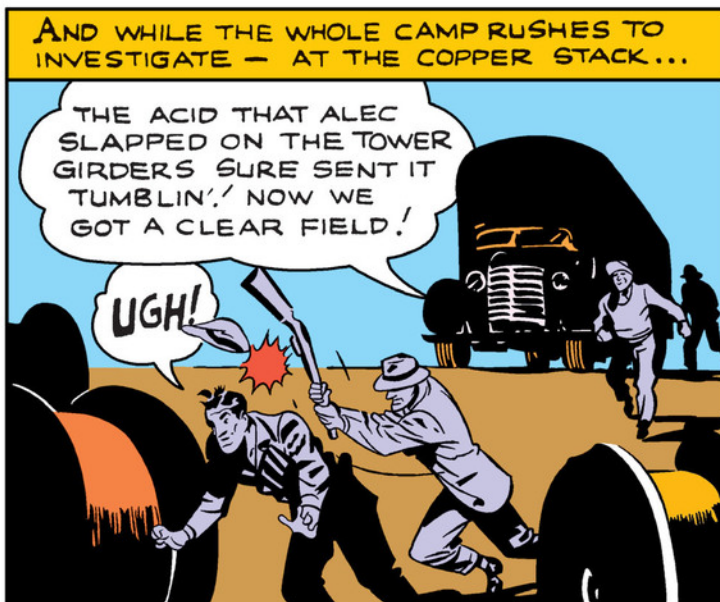
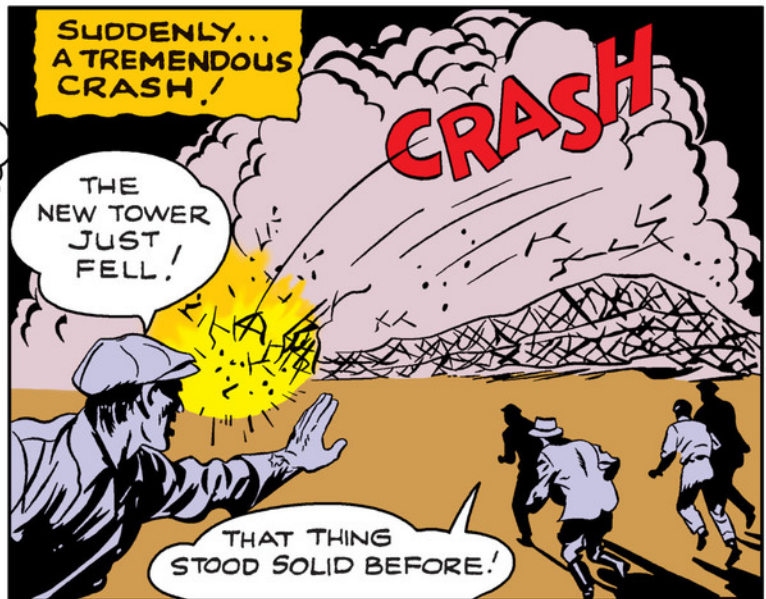
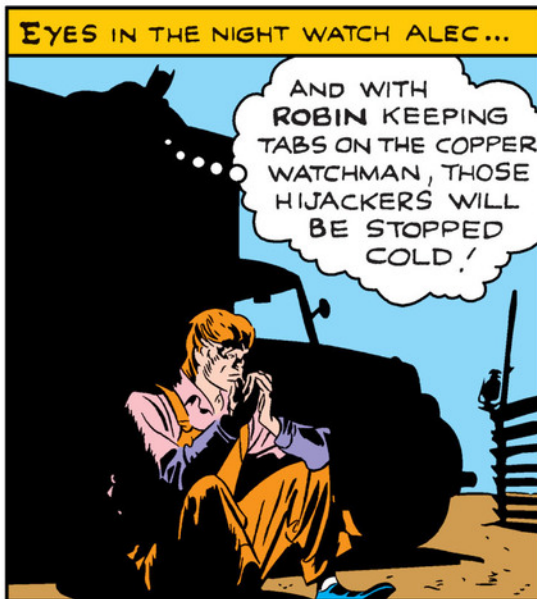
SAY, YOU TWO ARE ALWAYS READY TO TRY ANYTHING ...HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK ON ONE OF THOSE TOWERS ?

BOY, I SURE WOULD !

WHY NOT ? WE'LL LEARN TROUBLE-SHOOTING WHILE WE INVESTIGATE TROUBLE !

5





WILL YOU TWO SCRAPPERS FORGET YOUR OWN PERSONAL WAR FOR A WHILE AND HELP ME MAKE WAR ON THOSE HIJACKERS?

OKAY... UH... THANKS FOR THE HELP, JACK!

DO IT FOR ANYBODY, SO DON'T START GETTING SENTIMENTAL!

I'D

DAWN FINDS THE BATMOBILE STILL PATROLLING THE VAST DESERT...

JACK... ALEC... SEE ANYTHING YET?

NOPE! AND I CAN'T MAKE OUT HOW A BIG TRUCK CAN DISAPPEAR IN THIS DESERT!

YEAH... WE COULD SPOT ANY MOVING OBJECT ON THIS FLATLAND FOR MILES AROUND!

YES, IT'S PUZZLING, BUT NOT TOO PUZZLING, IF ONE KNOWS THE ANSWER! FOR, ONE HOUR BEFORE...

DAWN COMING UP! GET THOSE MIRRORS OUT AND BE SURE YOU COVER EVERY SIDE BUT THE FRONT!

A FEW MINUTES LATER... THE TRANSFORMATION IS COMPLETE! AN UNSEEN VEHICLE MOVES ACROSS THE DESERT WASTES!

CLEVER, EH, BOYS? MIRRORS THAT COVER THE TRUCK AND REFLECT THE ENDLESS SAND OF THE DESERT!

IT'S SURE SLICK! NOBODY CAN SPOT US! THEM MIRRORS MAKE THE TRUCK BLEND RIGHT IN THE DESERT!

SOMETIME LATER...THE CAR REACHES THE LOOMING MOUNTAIN... TOILS UP ITS FACE... THEN HALTS...

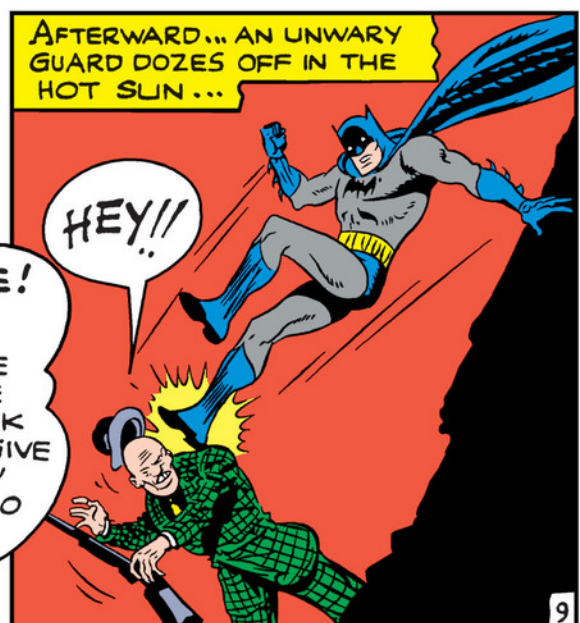
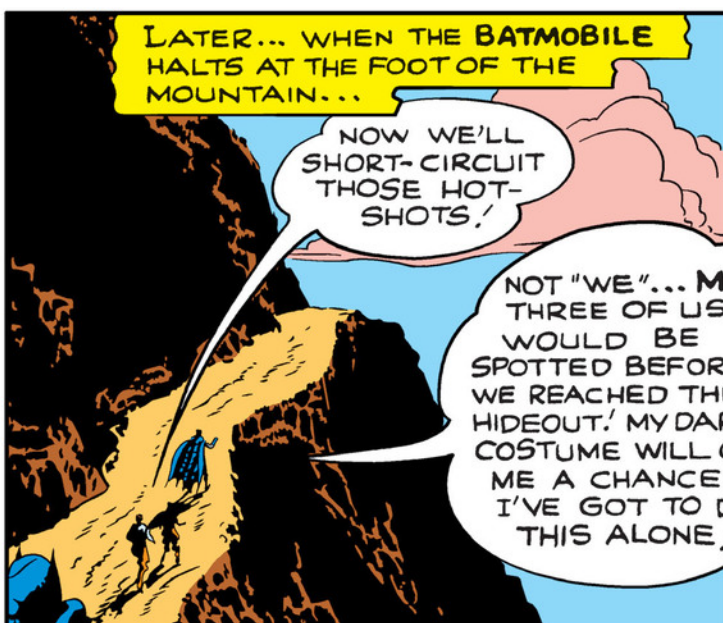
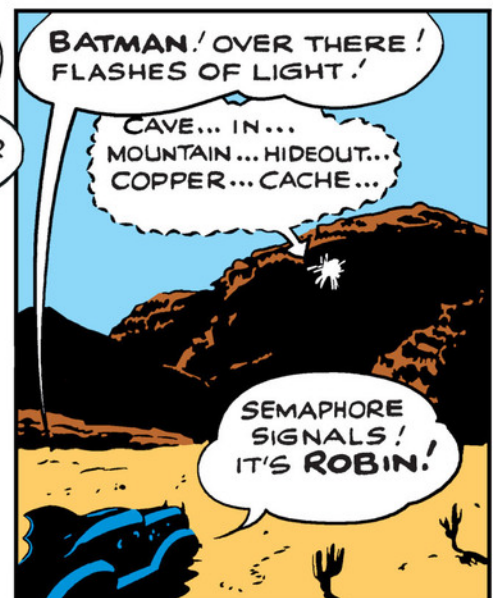
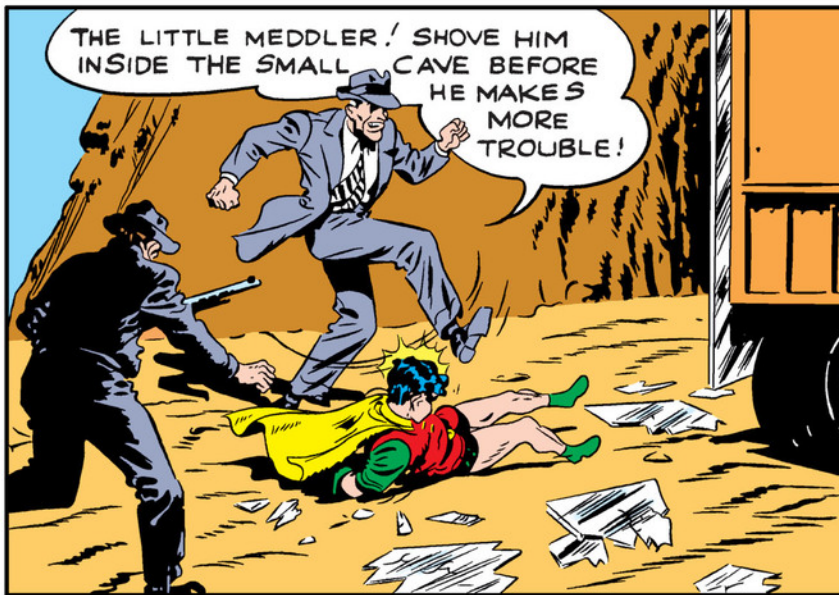
MOVE, BRAT!

PUT THE TRUCK AWAY, SLUGGER!

TRICKY GADGET...

...BUT MAYBE I CAN PUT A CRIMP IN YOUR DISAPPEARING ACT!

CRASH!





JOE! COME QUICK! IT'S BATMAN!

BLAM
BLAM

SO MUCH NOISE...!!



QUIET!



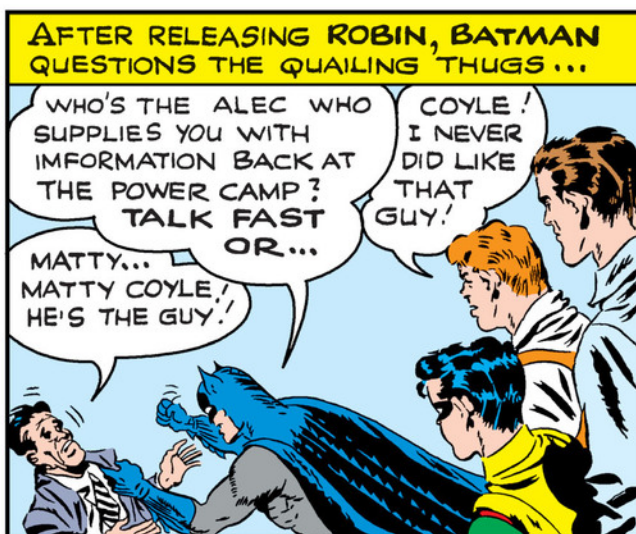
HERE'S WHERE YOU GET YOURS, WISE GUY!

OH-OH! YOU KNOW HOW TO USE THAT POP-GUN!



UGH!

NOTHING LIKE A BIT OF STRATEGY AT THE RIGHT TIME!

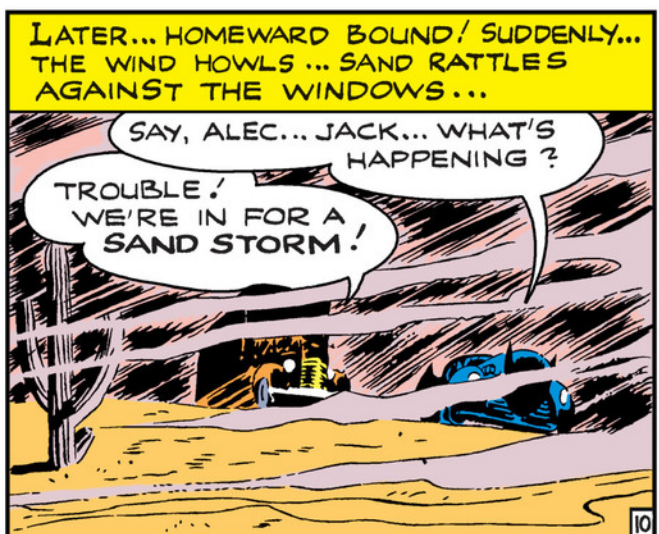


AFTER RELEASING ROBIN, BATMAN QUESTIONS THE QUAILING THUGS...

WHO'S THE ALEC WHO SUPPLIES YOU WITH INFORMATION BACK AT THE POWER CAMP? TALK FAST OR...

COYLE! I NEVER DID LIKE THAT GUY!

MATTY... MATTY COYLE! HE'S THE GUY!



LATER... HOMEWARD BOUND! SUDDENLY... THE WIND HOWLS ... SAND RATTLES AGAINST THE WINDOWS...

SAY, ALEC... JACK... WHAT'S HAPPENING?

TROUBLE! WE'RE IN FOR A SAND STORM!

THE CAMP AT LAST, AND THE SAND STORM INCREASING IN FEROCITY EVERY SECOND...

LOOK!
THERE'S
COYLE!

LOUDMOUTH!
HE HEARD
YOU! NOW
HE'S SCOOTING
OFF!

LET'S
HEAD
HIM
OFF!

GRIMLY, THE GROUP CLOSES IN ON THE COPPER BANDIT!

WHERE YA
GOIN'... RAT?

STICK
AROUND..
PAL!

NOW-
NOW,
BOYS...
DON'T
SCARE
HIM
AWAY!

PANIC-STRICKEN,
THE CRAVEN-
HEARTED
CRIMINAL
FLEES TO A
POWER TOWER...
AND CLIMBS IT
IN HIS MAD
FLIGHT...

STAY
AWAY
FROM
ME! YOU
HEAR...
STAY
AWAY!

DON'T GO
AWAY! WE'VE
GOT THINGS
TO TALK
ABOUT!

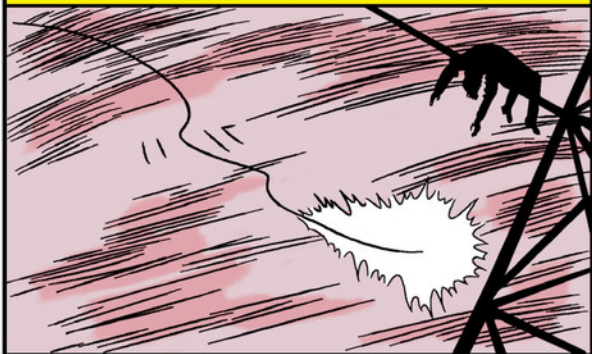
WIND AND
SAND SLASH
AT THE TWO
MEN... THE
HUNTER AND
THE HUNTED!

STAY AWAY
OR I'LL KILL YA!
I'LL KILL
YA!

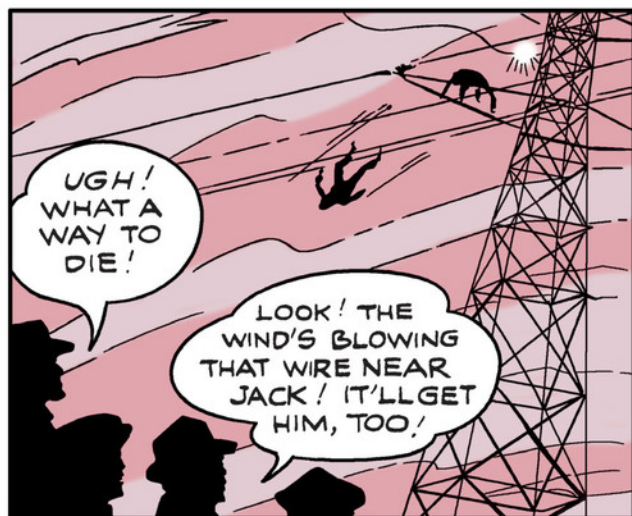
I
WARNED
YA!

THUD!

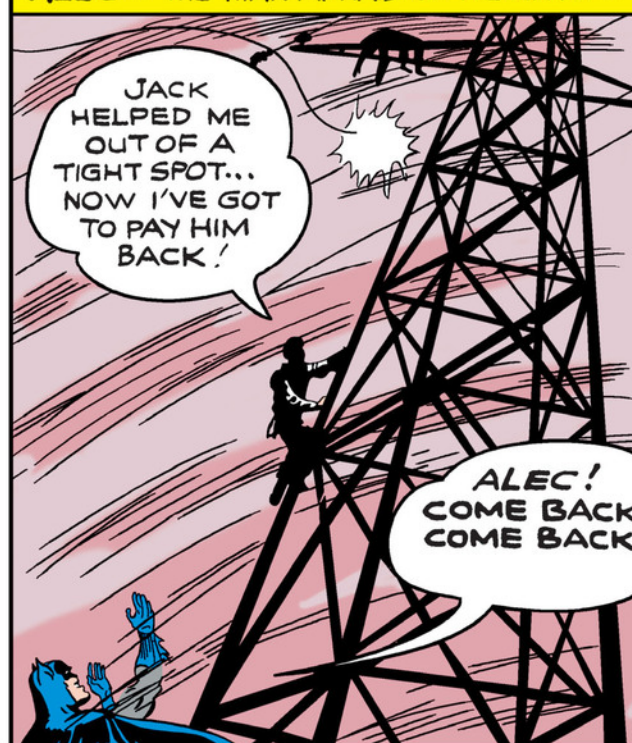
AT THAT MOMENT...THE FIERCE WIND TEARS AT AN ELECTRIC WIRE...AND RIPS IT LOOSE! A WIRE CABLE CARRYING 290,000 VOLTS!



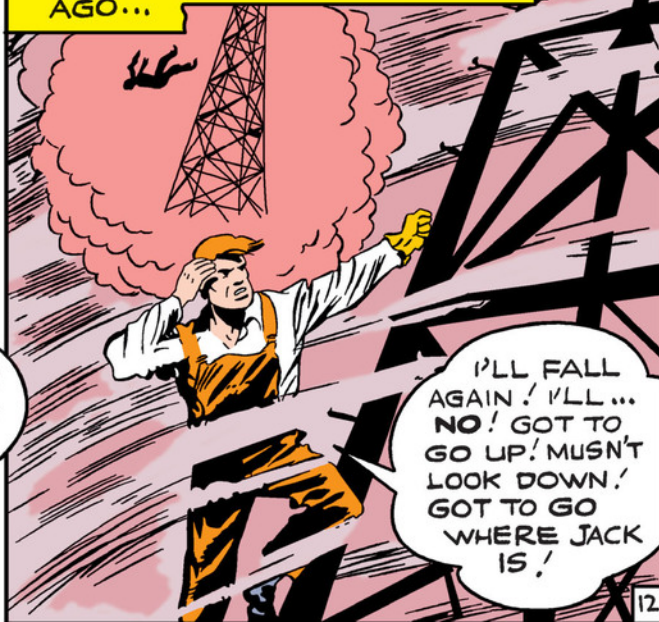
THE LIVE WIRE WHIPS ABOUT MADLY IN THE WIND--AND LASHES AT COYLE! A SICKENING CRACKLE...THE SMELL OF OZONE--AND COYLE IS ELECTROCUTED!

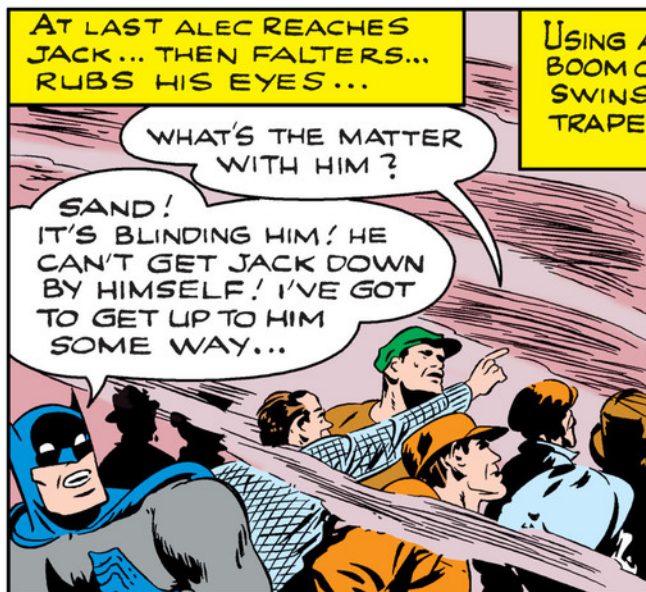


BUT SOMEONE IS AHEAD OF BATMAN! ALEC-- THE MAN AFRAID OF HEIGHTS!

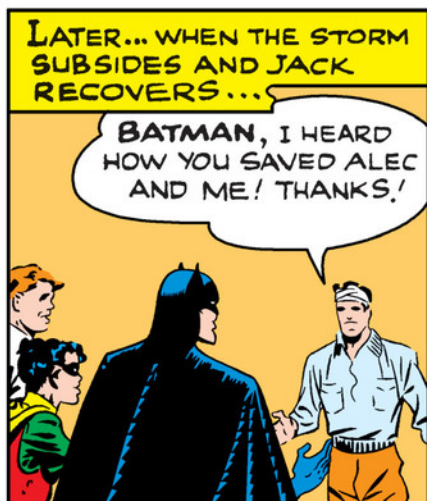
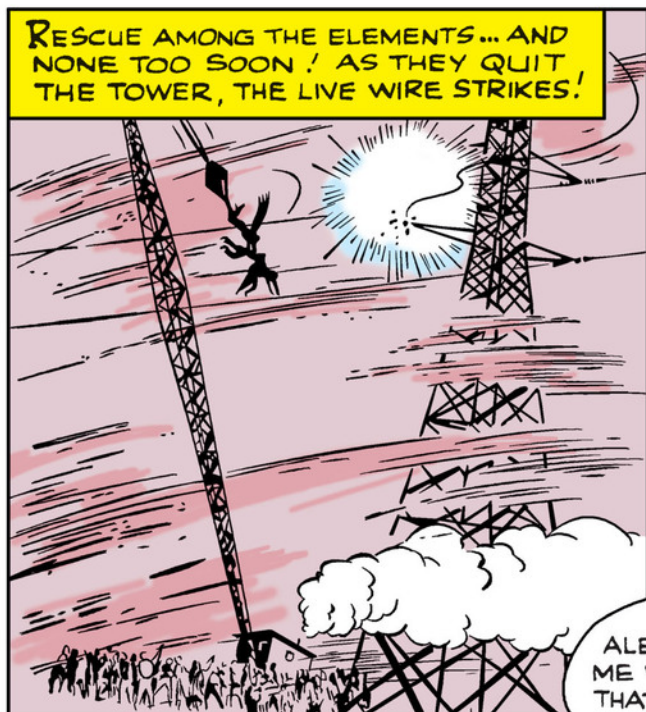
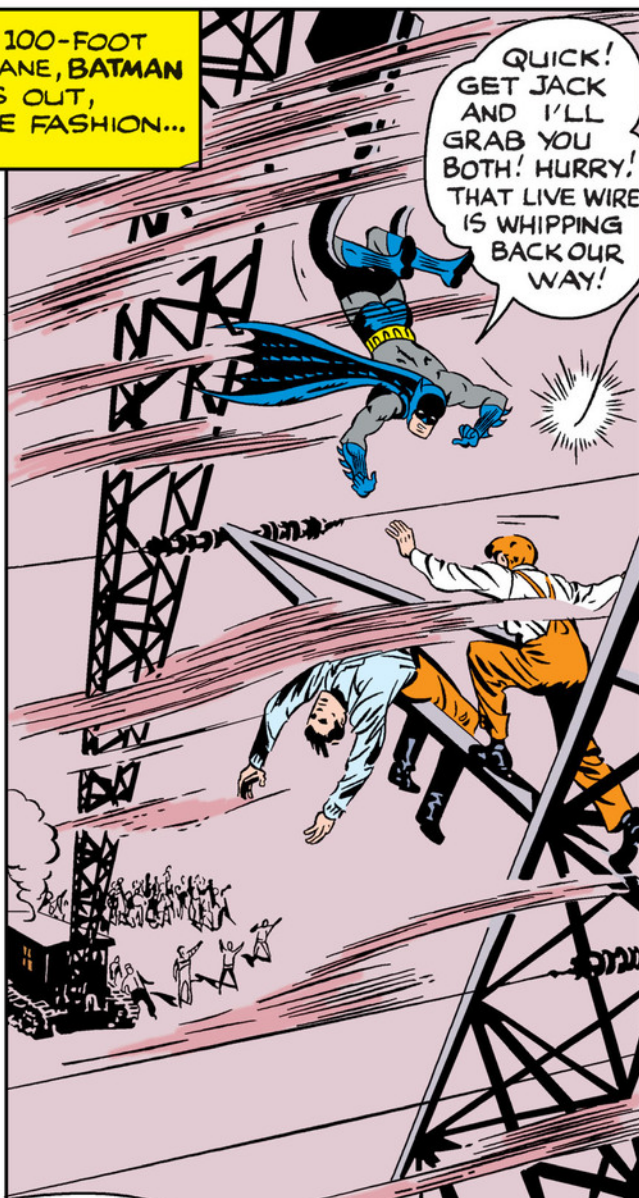


UP...UP, CLAWING, FIGHTING HIS WAY AGAINST HACKING WIND AND BLINDING SAND! BUT HIS GREATEST FIGHT IS AGAINST FEAR...AND HORRIBLE REMEMBRANCE OF A DAY NOT SO LONG AGO...





USING A 100-FOOT BOOM CRANE, BATMAN SWINGS OUT, TRAPEZE FASHION...





No.92

OCT...



THE BATMAN

Detective COMICS

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.



BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

THEY WERE HUNTED MEN... CRIMINALS AT LARGE... THEIR FACES STARING OUT OF EVERY REWARD POSTER IN THE STATES! BUT THEY WERE VALUABLE, THESE OUTLAWS... VALUABLE BECAUSE OF THE PRICE ON THEIR HEADS! HUMAN BOOTY INDEED, THIS BAND OF HOUNDED MEN AFRAID OF THEIR OWN SHADOWS!

BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE JACKALS OF GANGLAND GO AFTER THIS LEGAL BOOTY? YES... WHEN CROOKS GO ROBBERHUNTING, THEY SNARE MORE THAN THEY BARGAINED FOR IN THE LITHE, CAPED FORMS OF THE BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, CROOK-CATCHERS EXTRAORDINARY!

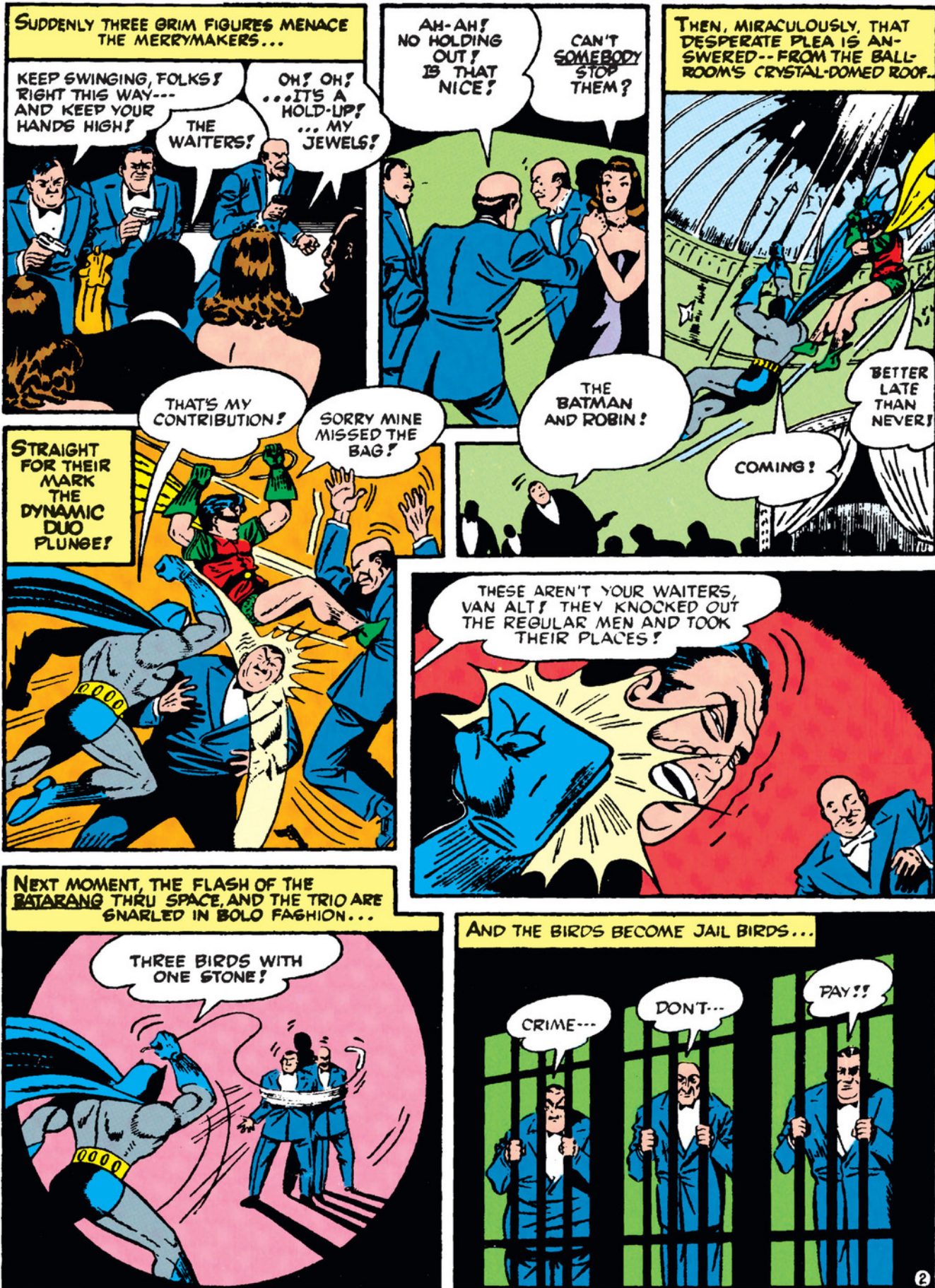
FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF A TRIO OF THIEVES WHO FORGOT TO REMEMBER THAT TOO MANY CROOKS SPOIL THE BROTH IN...
"CRIME'S MAN-HUNT"

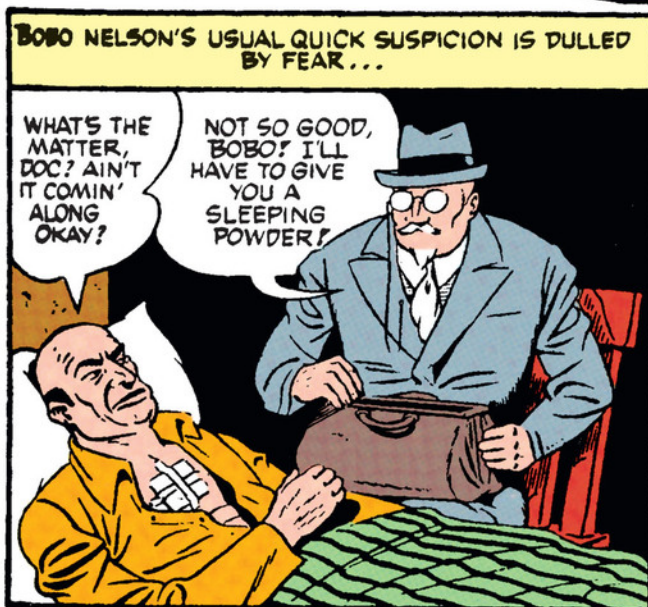
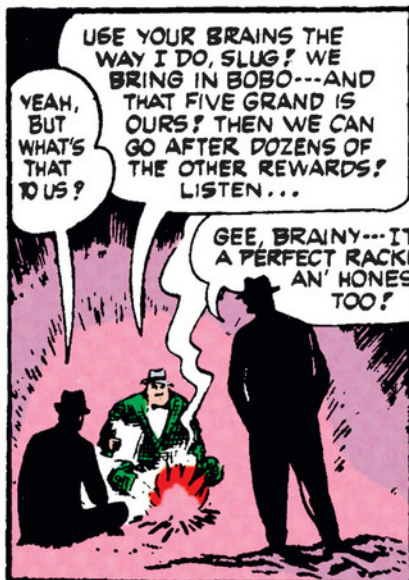
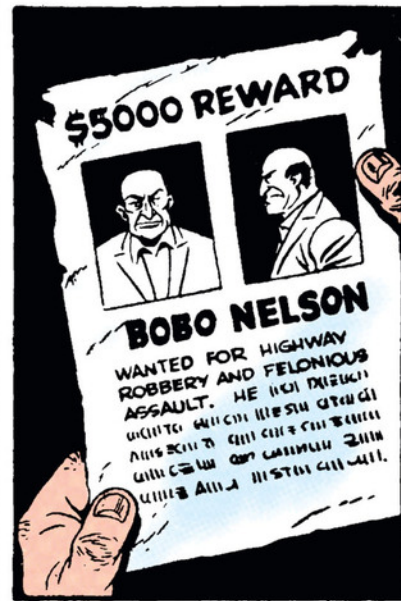
THE BOY WONDER

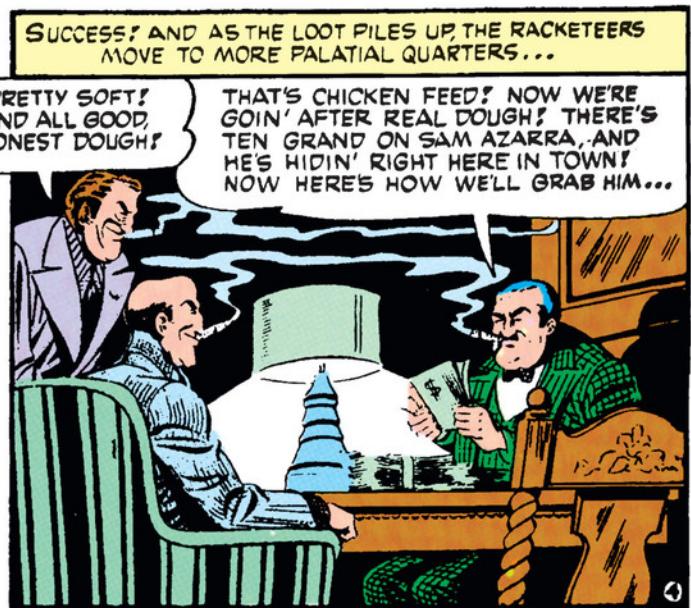
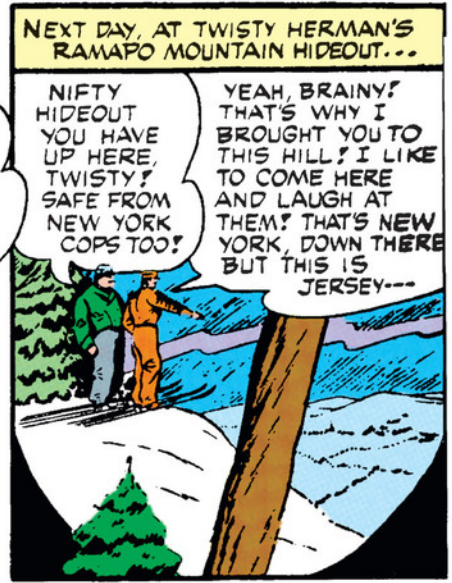


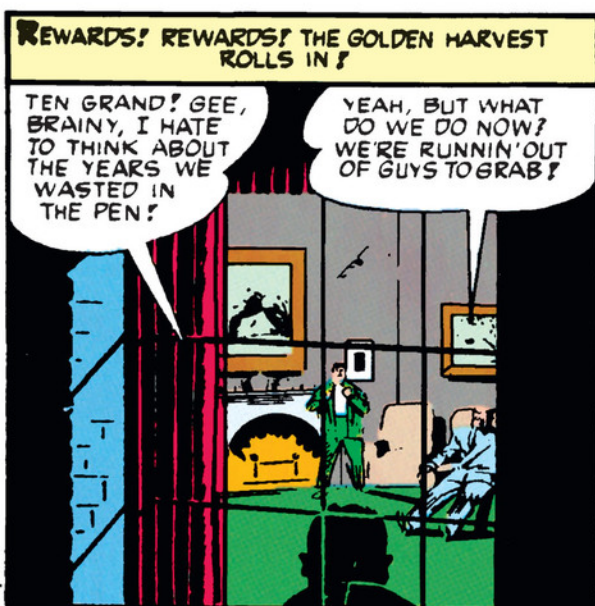
HILARITY HOLDS SWAY IN THE FASHIONABLE HOME OF CARTER VAN ALT AS A ROLLICKING CONGA LINE WEAVES ACROSS THE DANCE FLOOR...

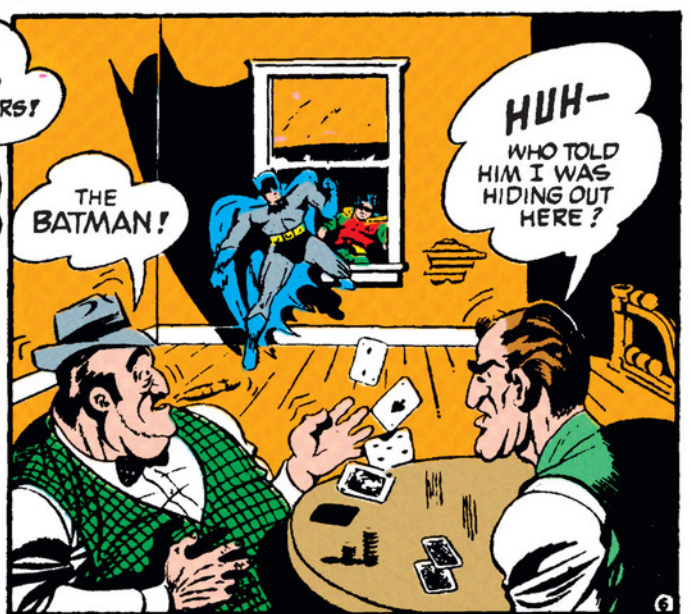
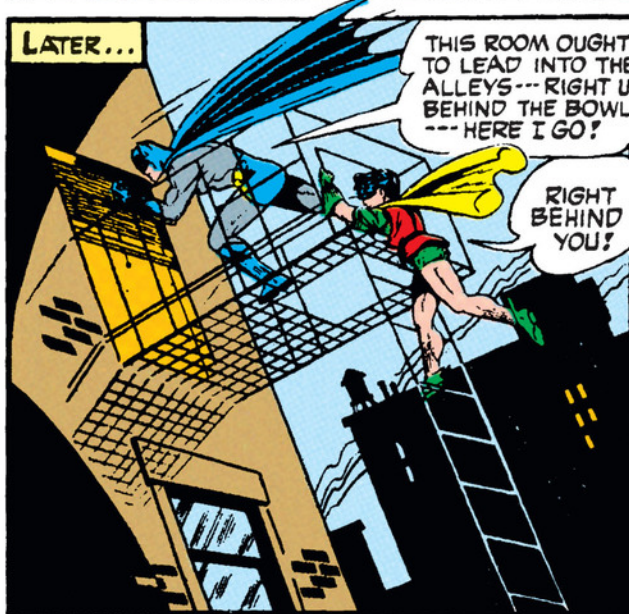
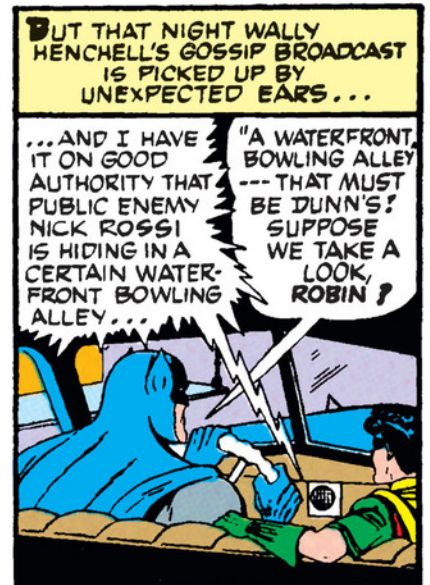
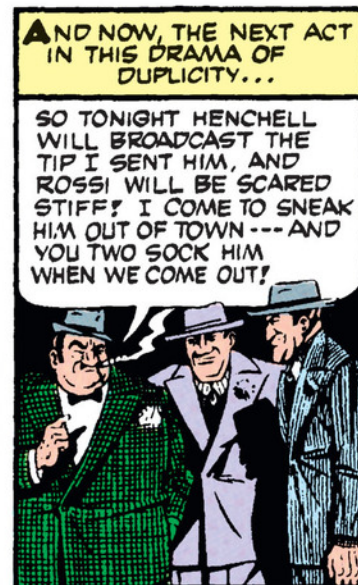
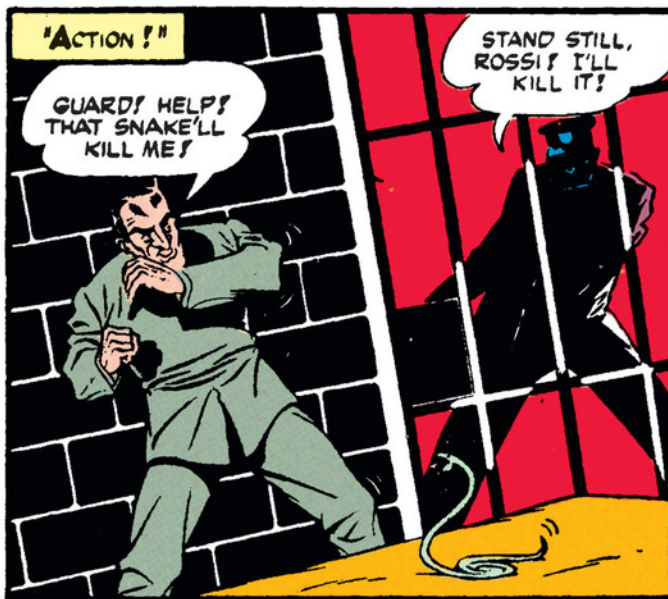
ONE-TWO-THREE-KICK!

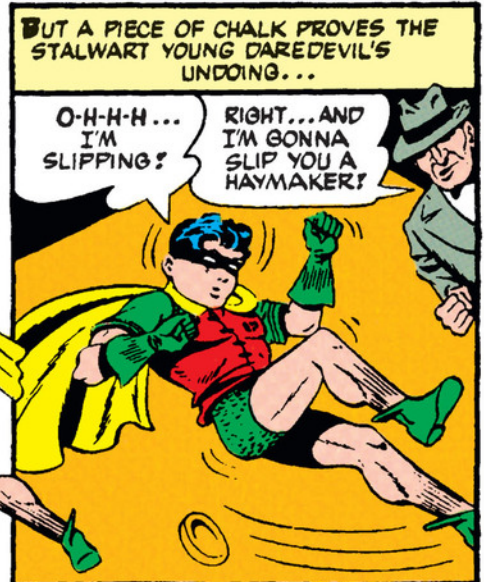


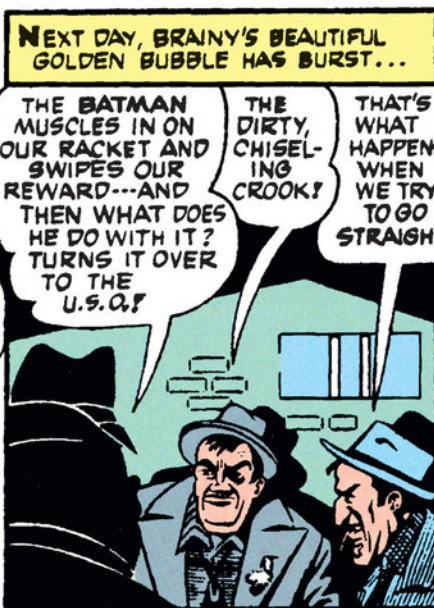
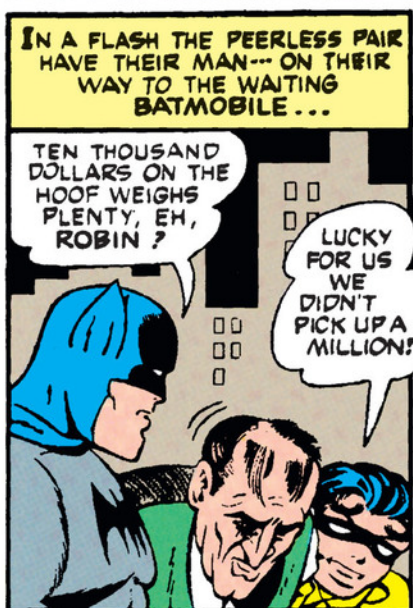
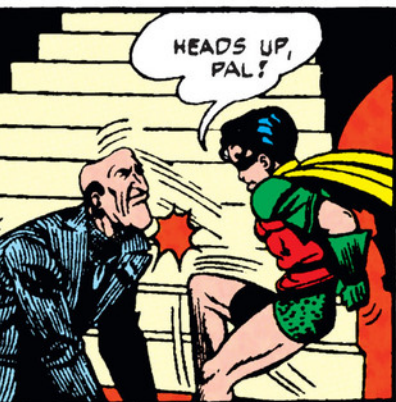
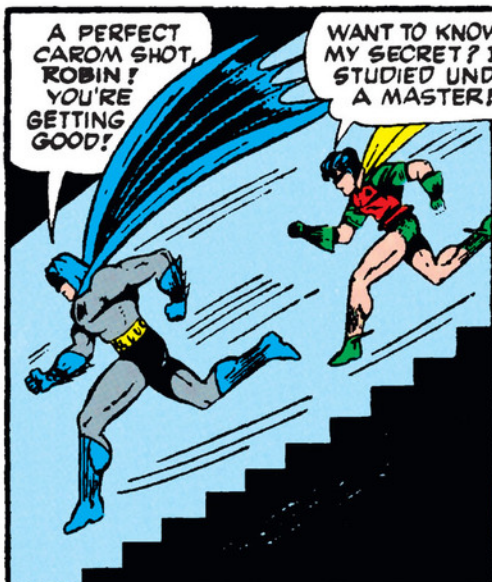


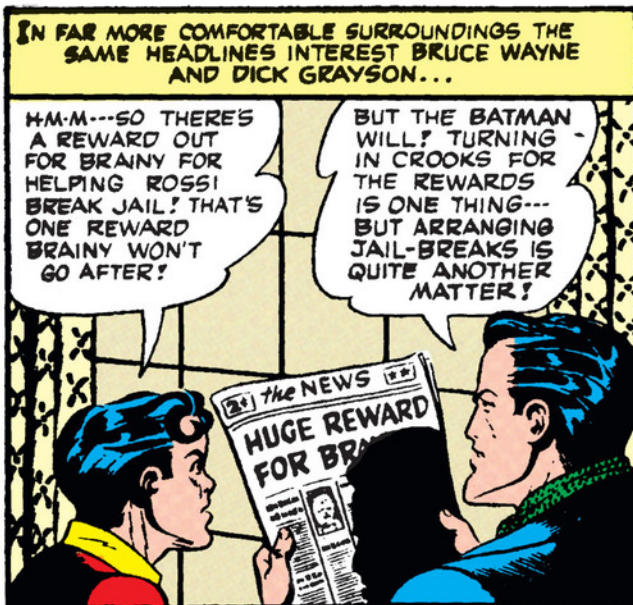




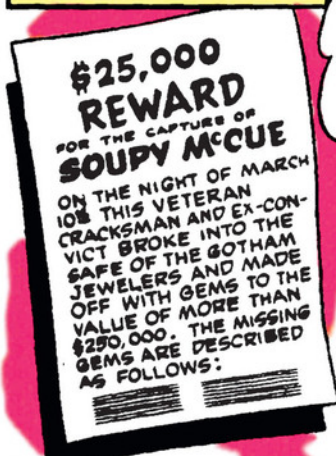




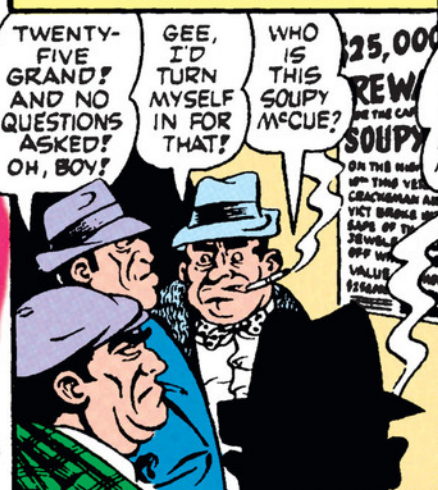




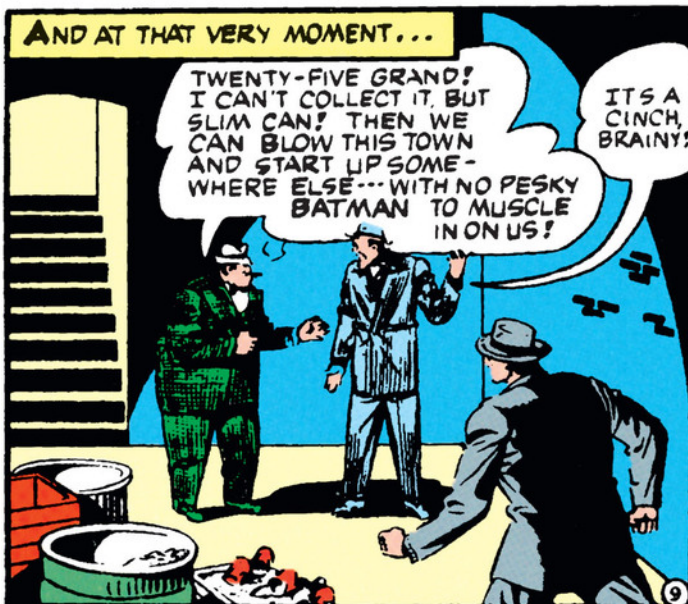
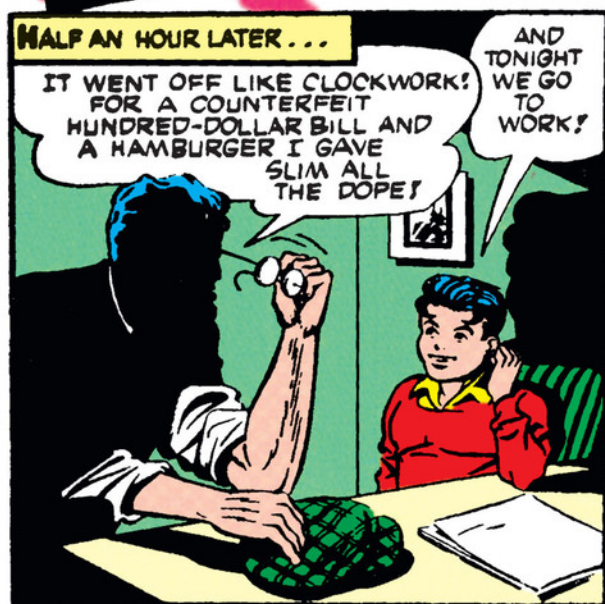
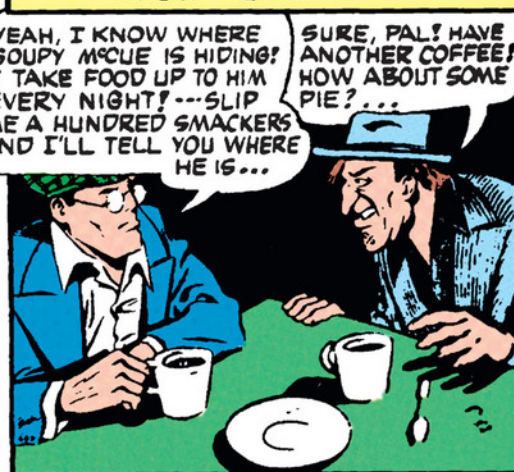
SO, IN A FEW DAYS, A NEW REWARD NOTICE IS CIRCULATED THROUGHOUT GOTHAM CITY...

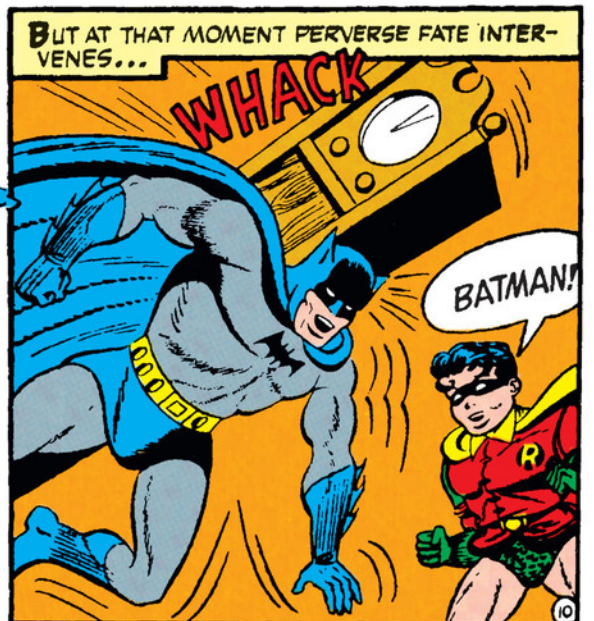
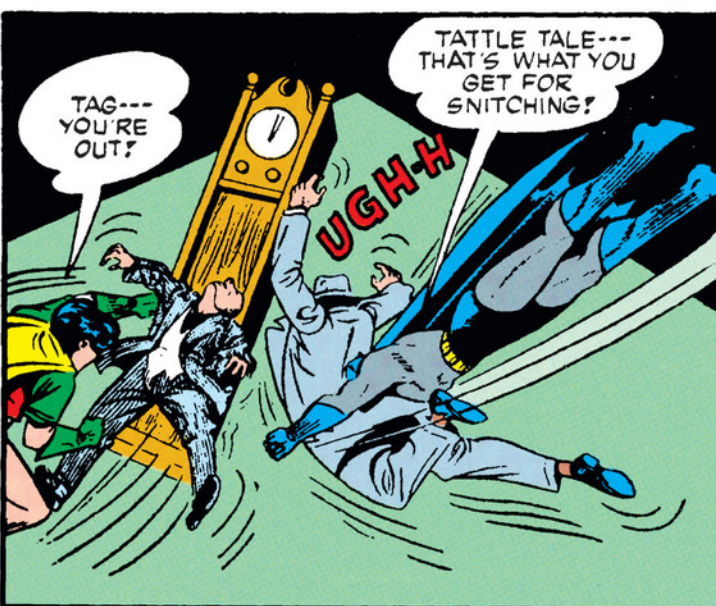
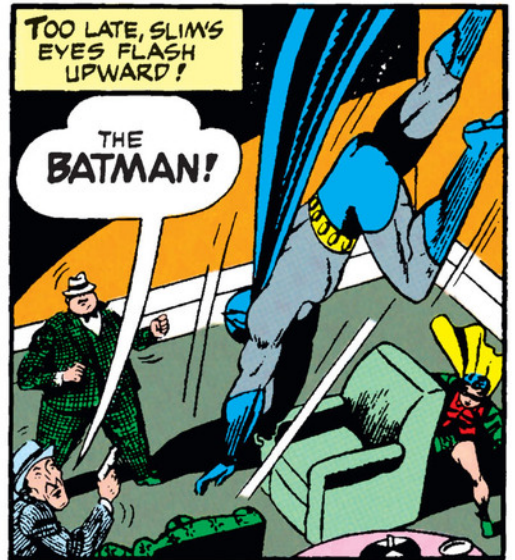
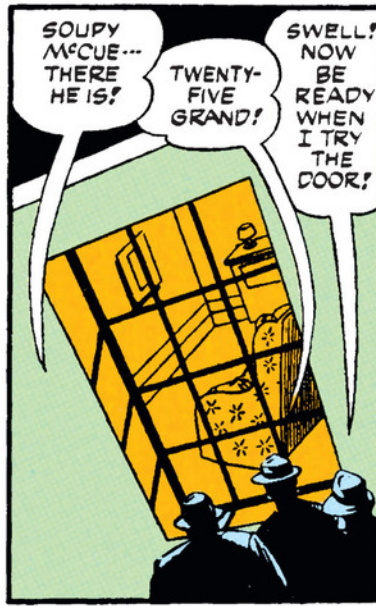
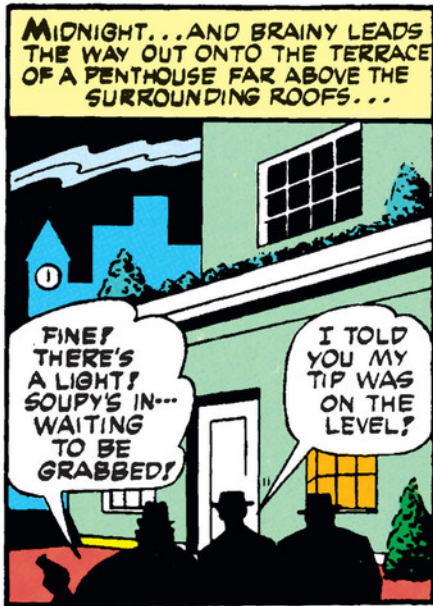


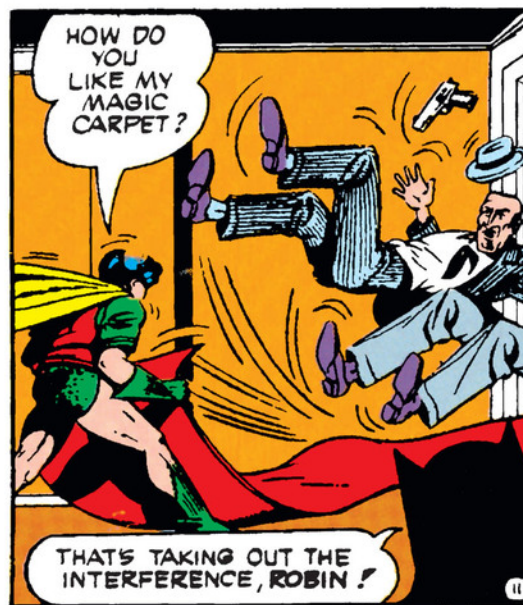
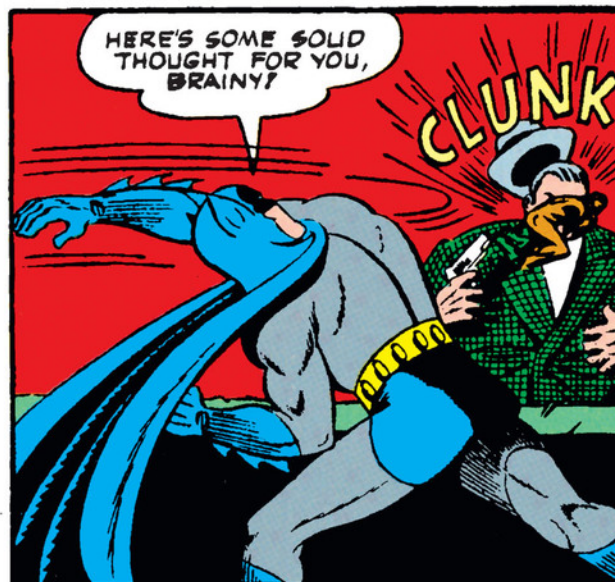
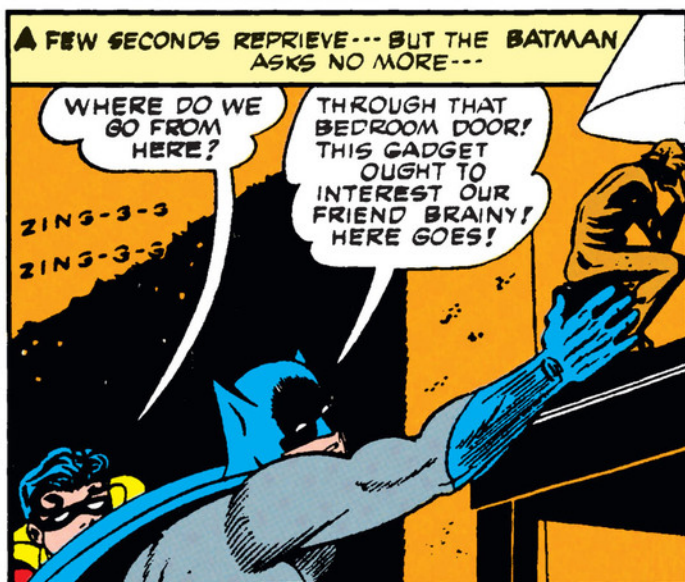
THE FERRET EYES OF THE UNDERWORLD SPY THE STARTLING POSTERS...

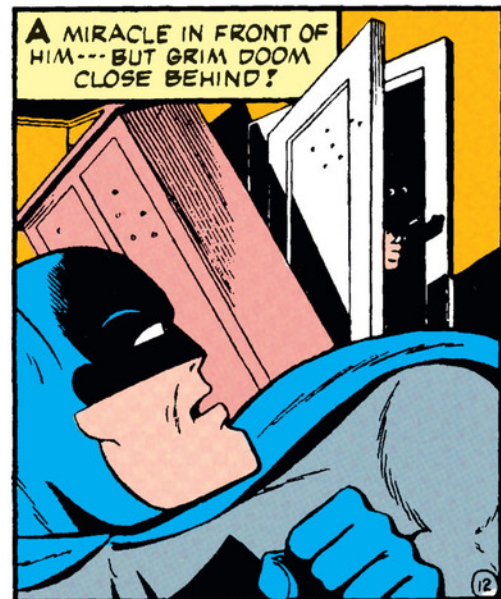
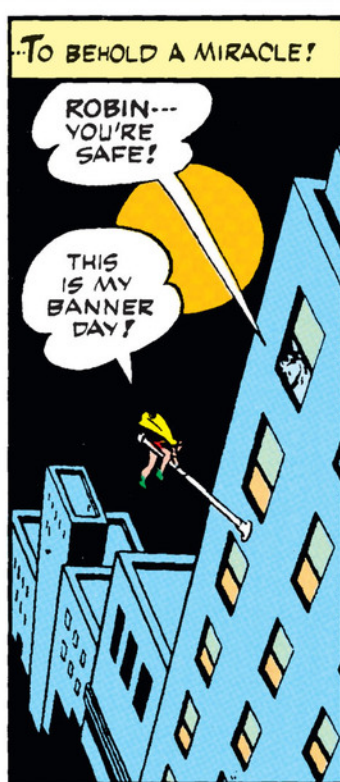
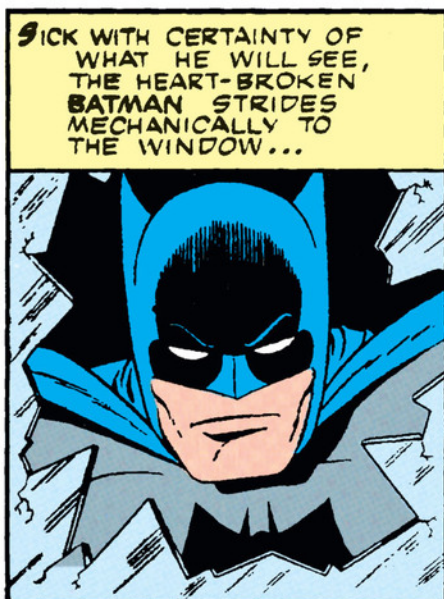
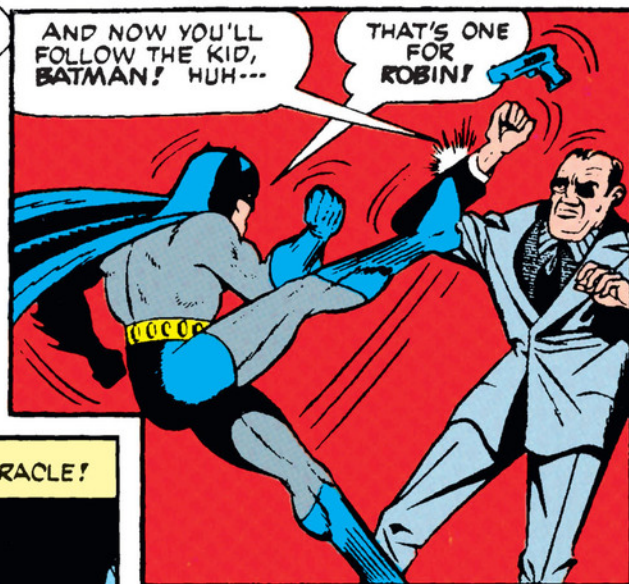
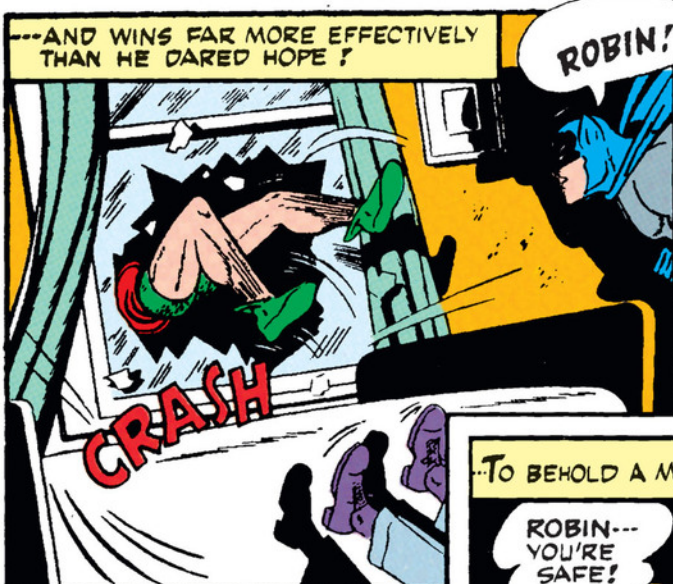
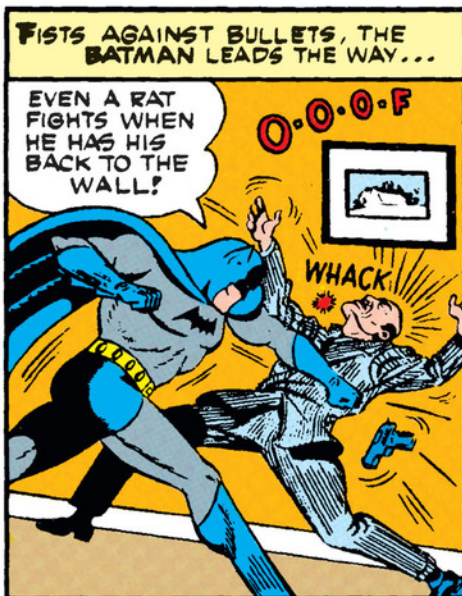


WHO IS SOUPY McCUE? THAT QUESTION IS ON HUNDREDS OF LIPS, BUT NOBODY SEEMS TO KNOW--- UNTIL---

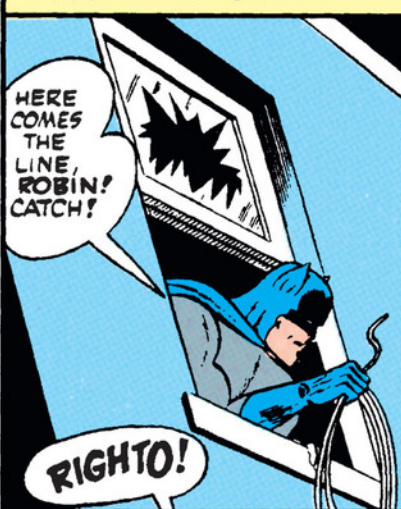








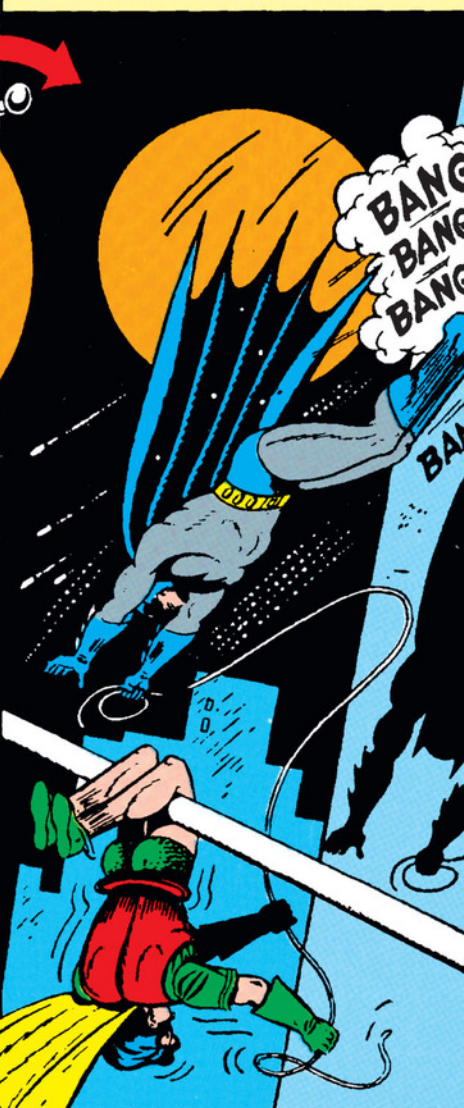
SWIFTLY THE BATMAN'S LIGHTNING BRAIN FORMULATES A DESPERATE PLAN...



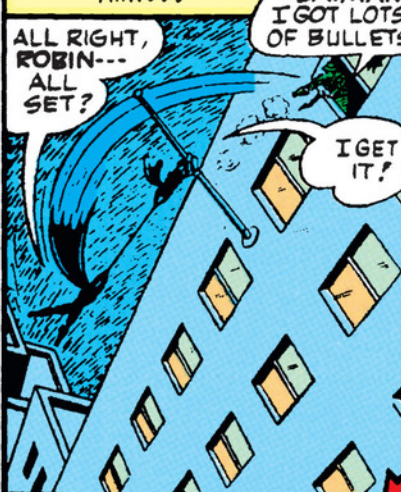
ALL IN HAND BELOW, SIR!



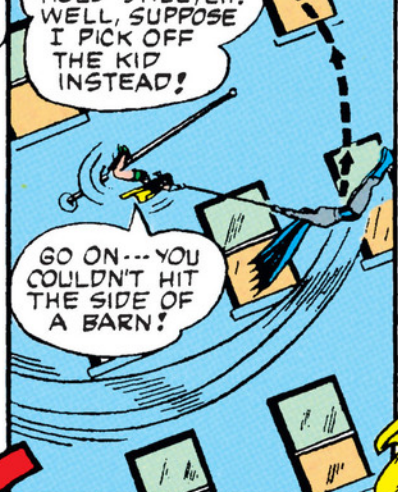
A DEADLY HAIL RIDDLES THE BATMAN'S SABLE WINGS AS HE LEAPS INTO SPACE!



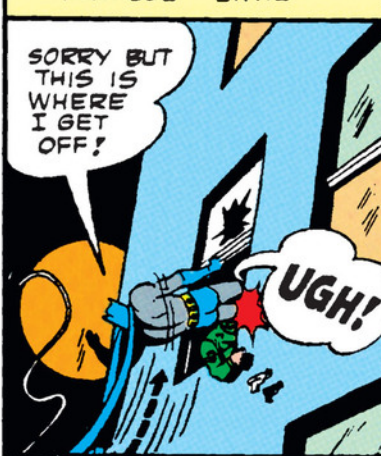
BUT DOOM HOVERS TENACIOUSLY ABOVE HIM...



YOU WON'T HOLD STILL, EH? WELL, SUPPOSE I PICK OFF THE KID INSTEAD!

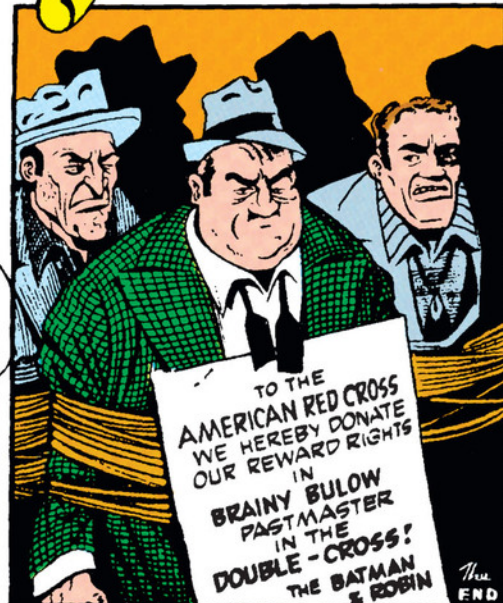


THE DEADLY MUZZLE TURNS TO ROBIN'S BARELY MOVING FIGURE... BUT BRAINY MISSES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THAT DESPERATE PINWHEEL--- UNTIL---



AND SO WE REACH THE END OF THE SORDID RACKET TRAIL...

HELLO, COMMISSIONER! WE HAVE THREE CUSTOMERS HERE WAITING FOR THE PATROL WAGON! AND THERE'S A LITTLE REWARD WE WANT TO DONATE TO---



COMPLETE YOUR COLLECTION WITH THESE OTHER
GOLDEN AND SILVER AGE TRADE PAPERBACKS



BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 1



BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 2



SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 3



BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 4



BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 5



SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 1



JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA: THE SILVER AGE VOL. 1



THE FLASH: THE SILVER AGE VOL. 1



GREEN LANTERN: THE SILVER AGE VOL. 1



WONDER WOMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 1



SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 2



SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 3

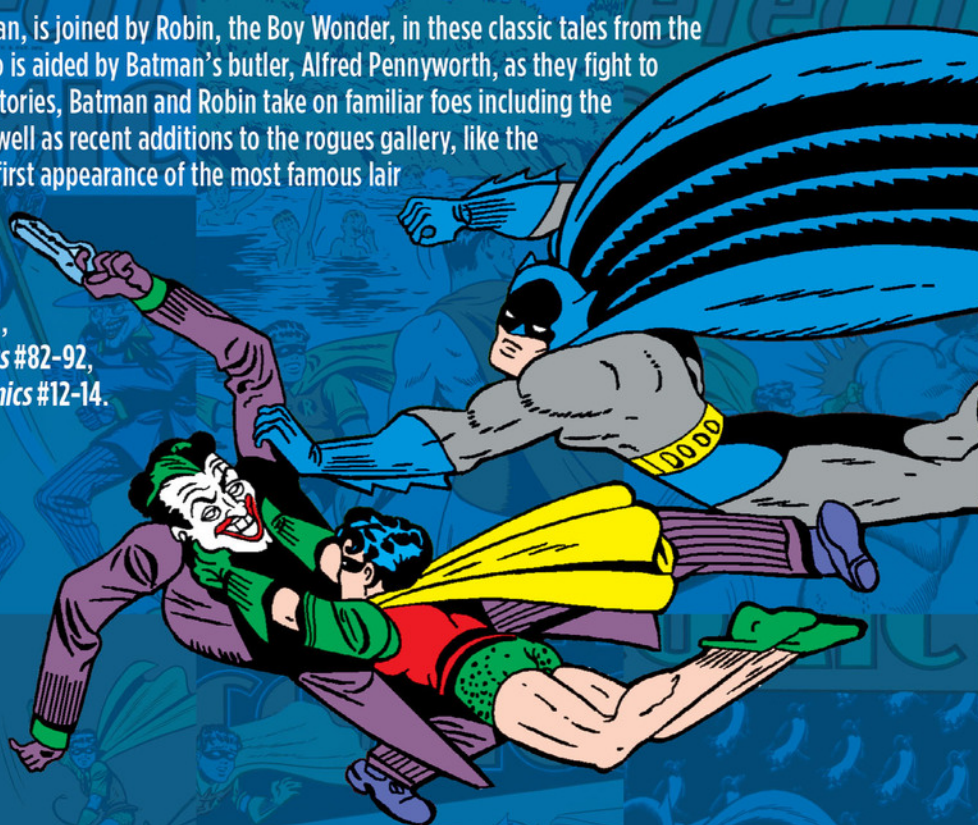
COLLECTING THESE **PULSE-POUNDING** ISSUES AND MORE!



THE CLASSIC ADVENTURES OF BATMAN AND ROBIN CONTINUE HERE!

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THIS MONSTER!"

